TETRAGRAMMATON LABYRINTH

STORY AND ART
Ei Itou

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Some truths are better left unknown...

Meg and Angela's mission has brought them to Heidelberg, Germany. When they try to help out a pair of gypsy sisters in need, they come face to face with a group of oppressive humans who are almost as bad as demons themselves.

Elsewhere in the city, living legends run amok and ancient ruins conceal a long forgotten treasure. Could this place be the key to awakening Angela's weapon, the Anathema scythe? Or will it perhaps awaken something else, even more powerful and sinister?

OLDER TEEN (16+)
$11.99 USA
($13.50 CAN)
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STRAWBERRY
MANGA

TERROR MEMENTO = DEPARTMENT

by moo

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TETRAGRAMMATON LABYRINTH

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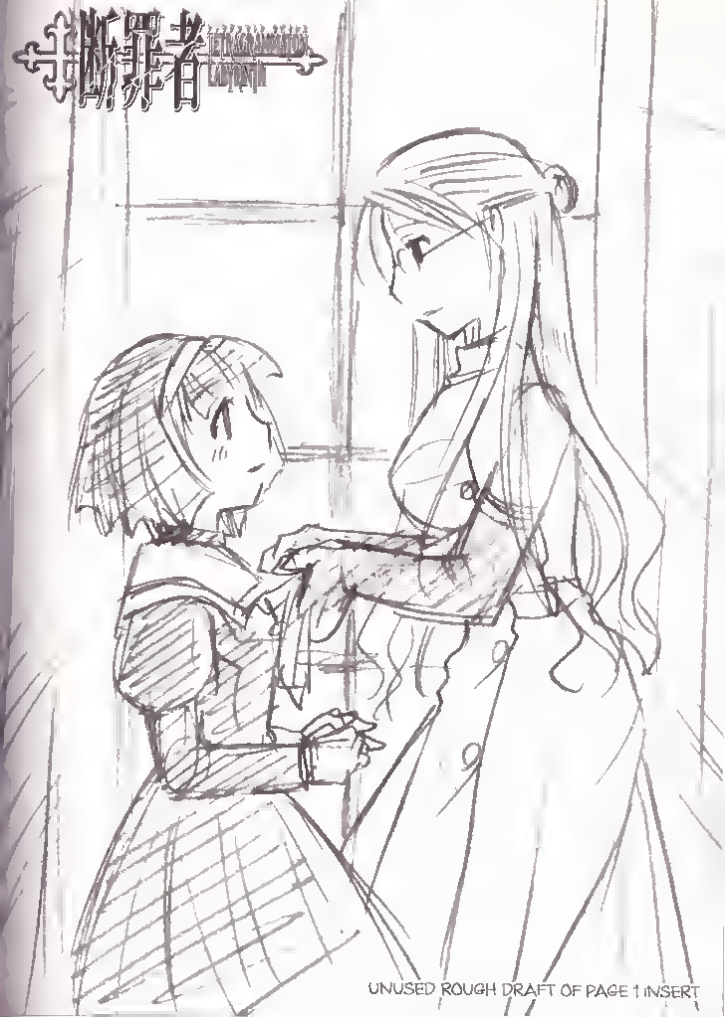
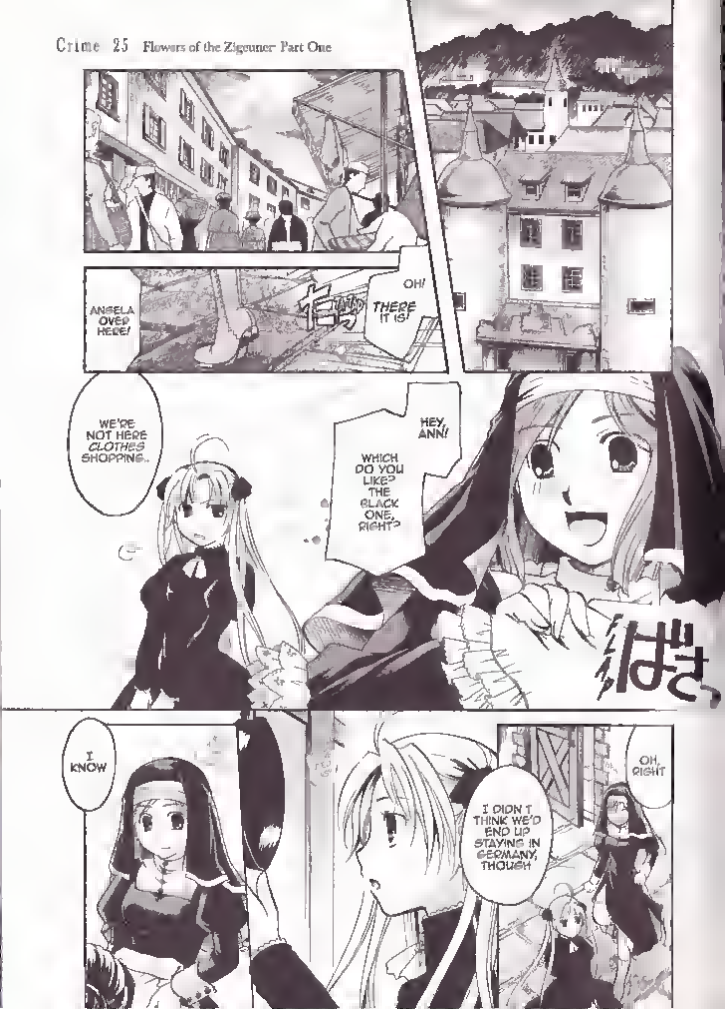
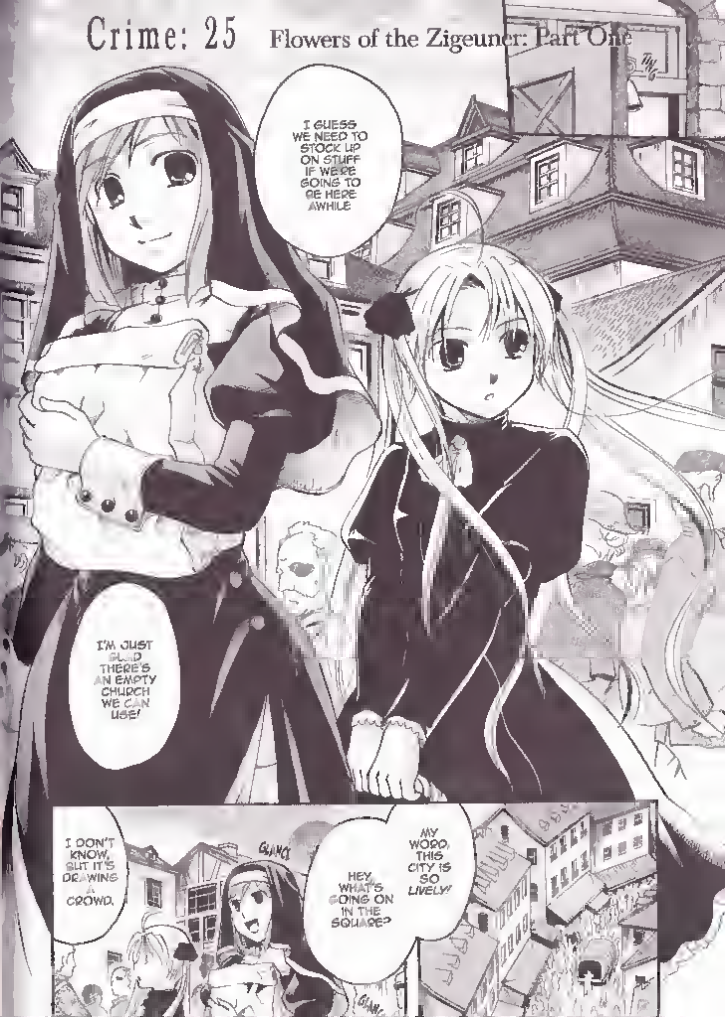
UNUSED ROUGH DRAFT OF COVER

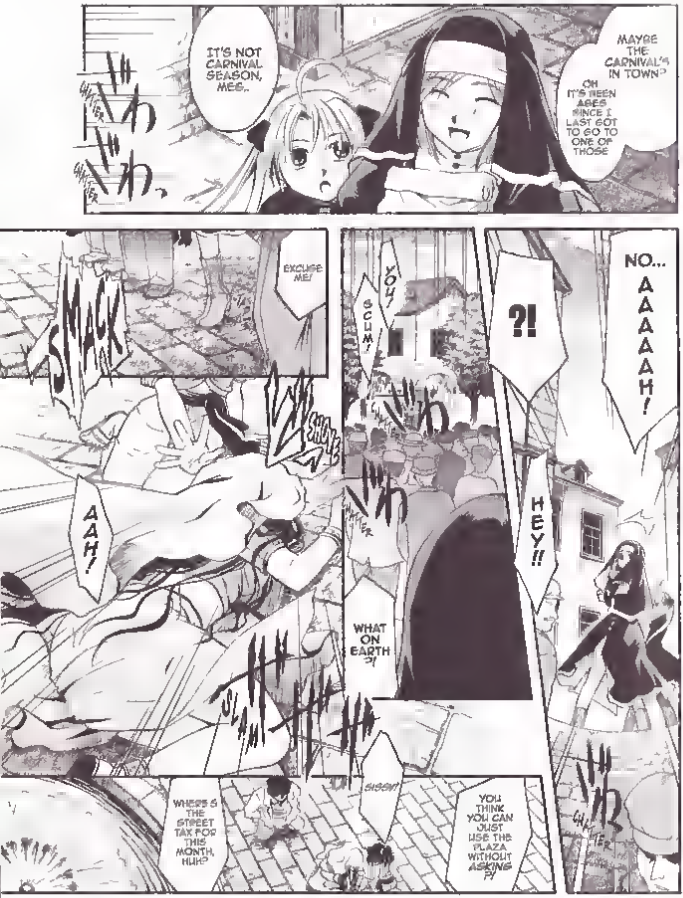


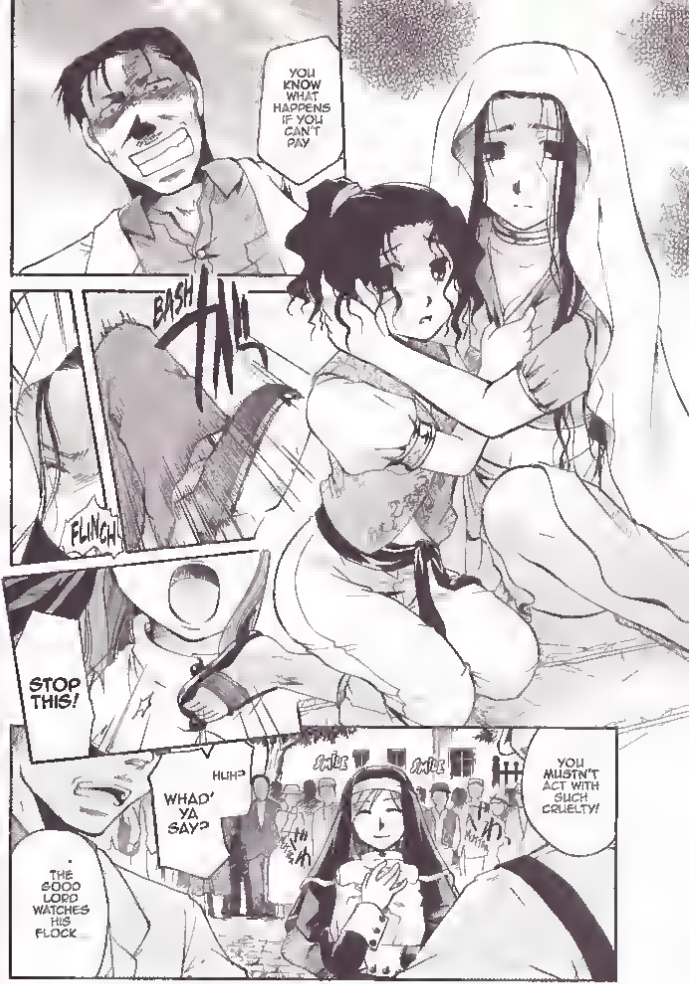
UNUSED ROUGH DRAFT OF PAGE 1 INSERT

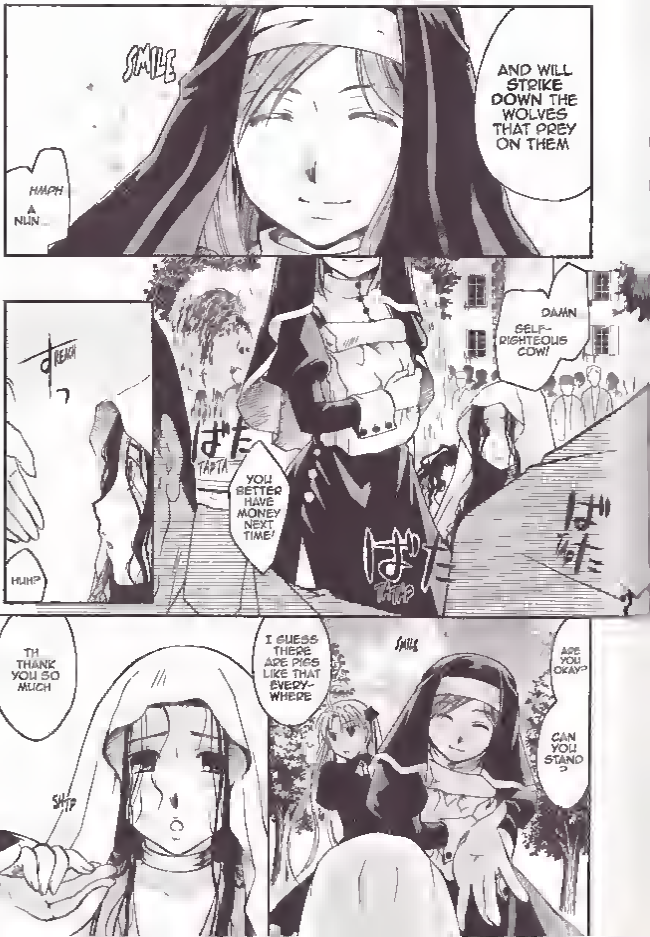

ANGELA OVER HERE!
OH! THERE IT IS!
WE'RE NOT HERE CLOTHES SHOPPING..
HEY, ANN! WHICH DO YOU LIKE? THE BLACK ONE, RIGHT?
I KNOW
I DIDN'T THINK WE'D END UP STAYING IN GERMANY, THOUGH
OH, RIGHT

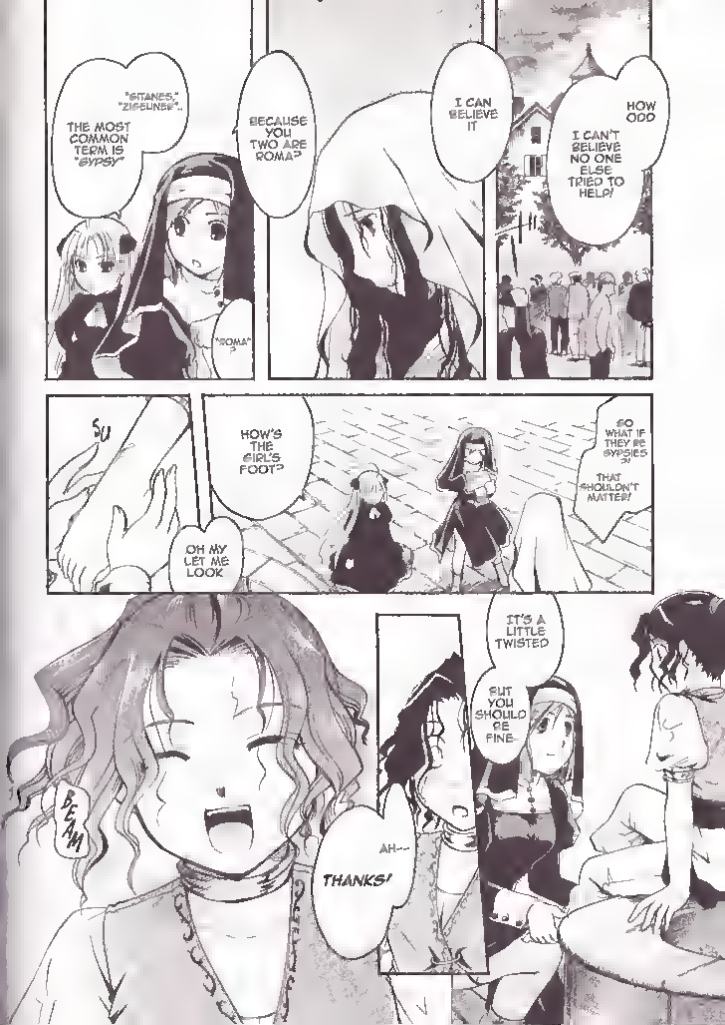
Crime: 25 Flowers of the Zigeuner: Part One

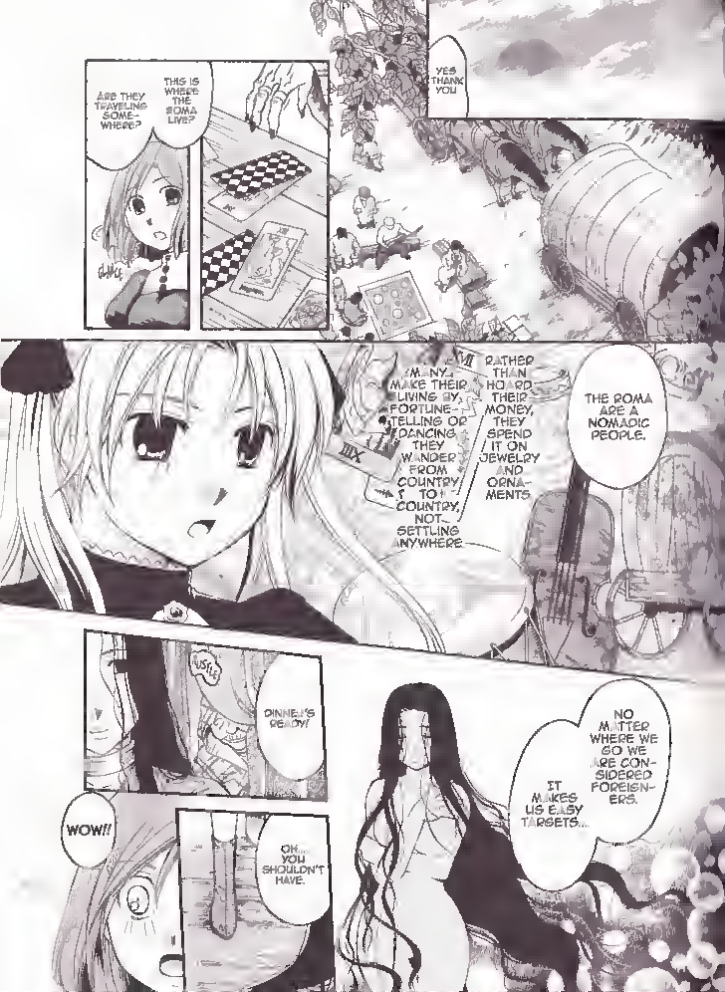

I GUESS WE NEED TO STOCK UP ON STUFF IF WE'RE GOING TO BE HERE AWHILE
I'M JUST GLAD THERE'S AN EMPTY CHURCH WE CAN USE!
I DON'T KNOW, BUT IT'S DRAWING A CROWD.
GUNG
HEY, WHAT'S GOING ON IN THE SQUARE?
MY WORD, THIS CITY IS SO LIVELY!
GUNG

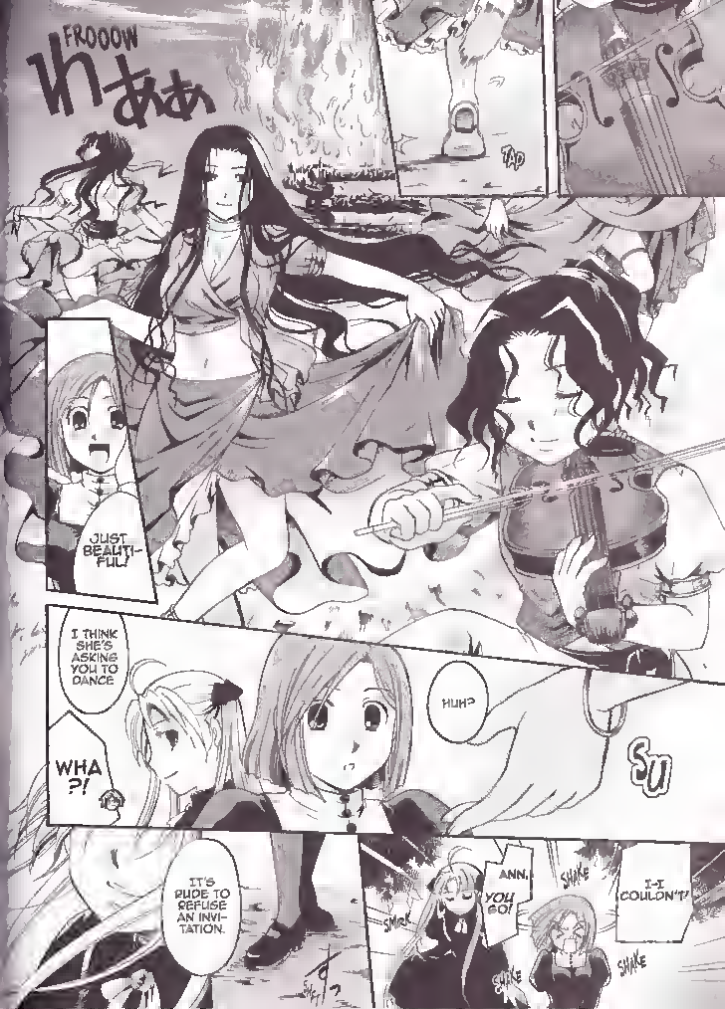

MAYBE THE CARNIVAL'S IN TOWN?
OH IT'S BEEN AGES SINCE I LAST GOT TO GO TO ONE OF THOSE
IT'S NOT CARNIVAL SEASON, ME&..
NO... AAAAAH!
?!
HEY!!
YOU SCUM!
EXCUSE ME!
SMACK
AAH!
WHAT ON EARTH?!
WHERE'S THE STREET TAX FOR THIS MONTH, HUH?
SIGH
YOU THINK YOU CAN JUST USE THE PLAZA WITHOUT ASKING?!

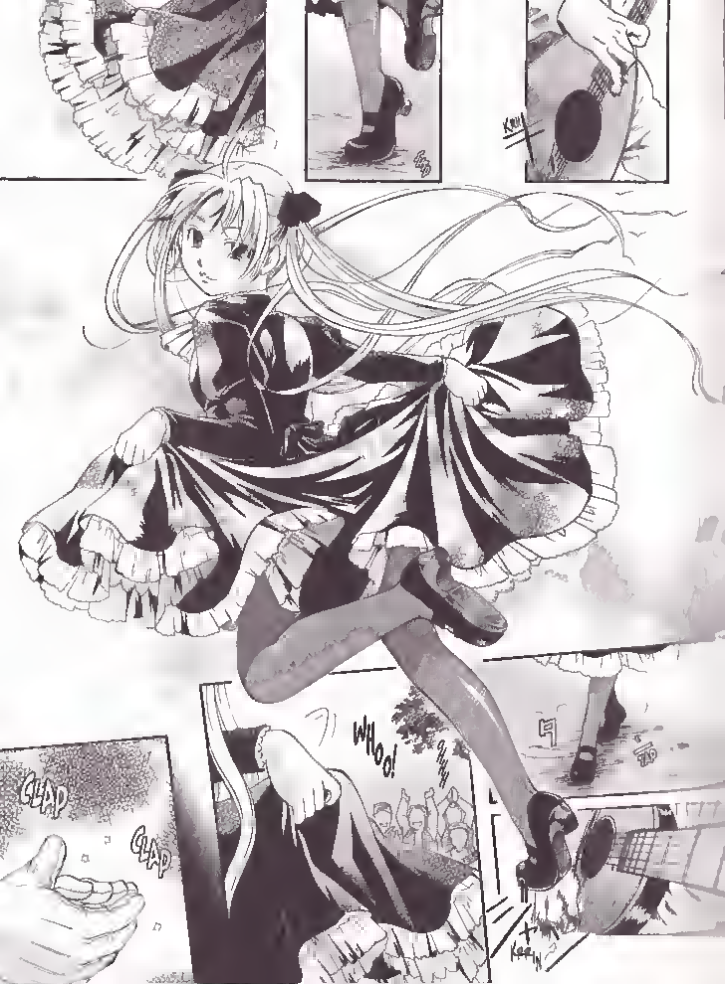

YOU KNOW WHAT HAPPENS IF YOU CAN'T PAY
BASH
FLINCH
STOP THIS!
HUH?
WHAD' YA SAY?
THE GOOD LORD WATCHES HIS FLOCK
YOU MUSTN'T ACT WITH SUCH CRUELTY!

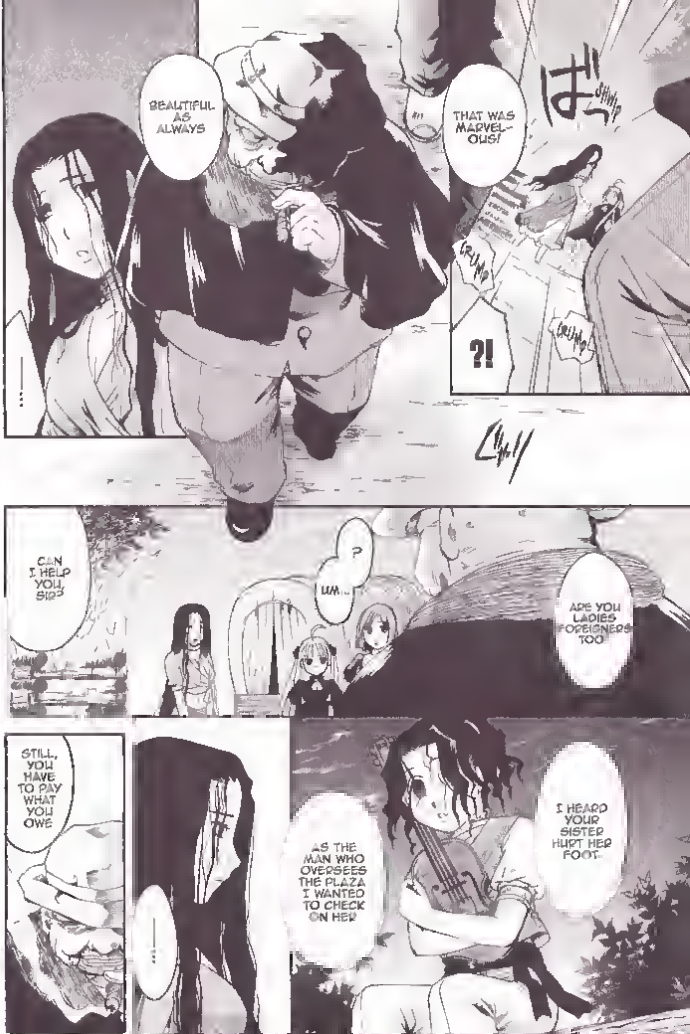

SMILE
AND WILL STRIKE DOWN THE WOLVES THAT PREY ON THEM
HMPH A NUN...
DAMN SELF-RIGHTEOUS COW!
YOU BETTER HAVE MONEY NEXT TIME!
TAPTA
HUH?
TH THANK YOU SO MUCH
SHIP
I GUESS THERE ARE PIGS LIKE THAT EVERY-WHERE
SMILE
ARE YOU OKAY?
CAN YOU STAND ?

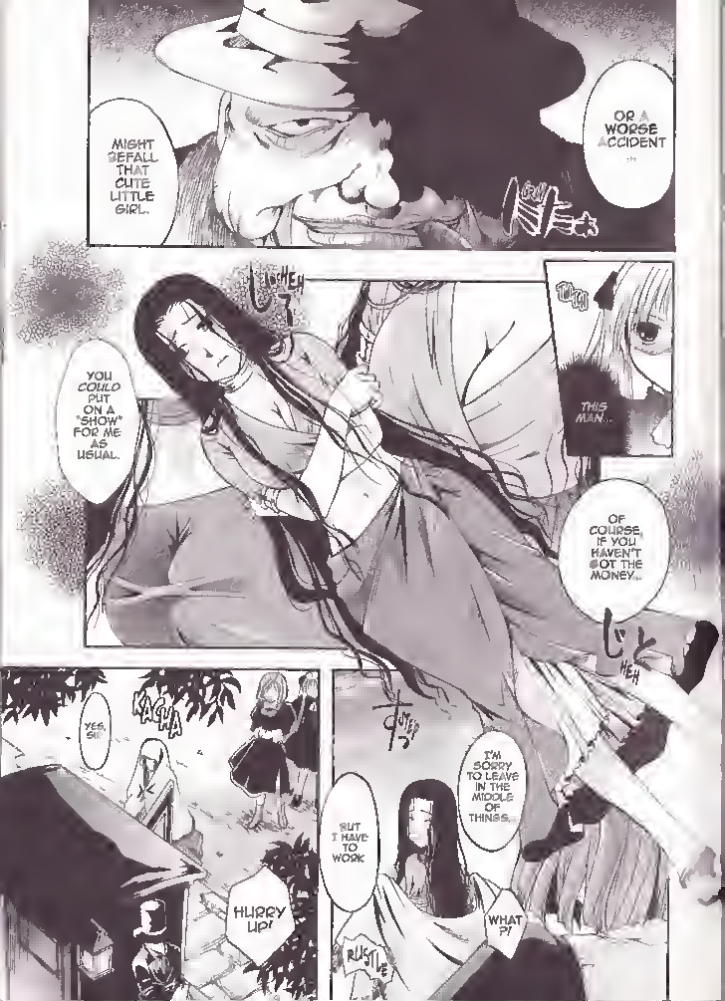

"ROMA"?
THE MOST COMMON TERM IS "GYPSY"
"ATSINGANES," "ZIGEUNER"...
BECAUSE YOU TWO ARE ROMA?
I CAN BELIEVE IT
HOW ODD
I CAN'T BELIEVE NO ONE ELSE TRIED TO HELP!
SU
HOW'S THE GIRL'S FOOT?
OH MY LET ME LOOK
SO WHAT IF THEY'RE GYPSIES?
THAT SHOULDN'T MATTER!
BE AM
AH--
THANKS!
IT'S A LITTLE TWISTED
BUT YOU SHOULD BE FINE.

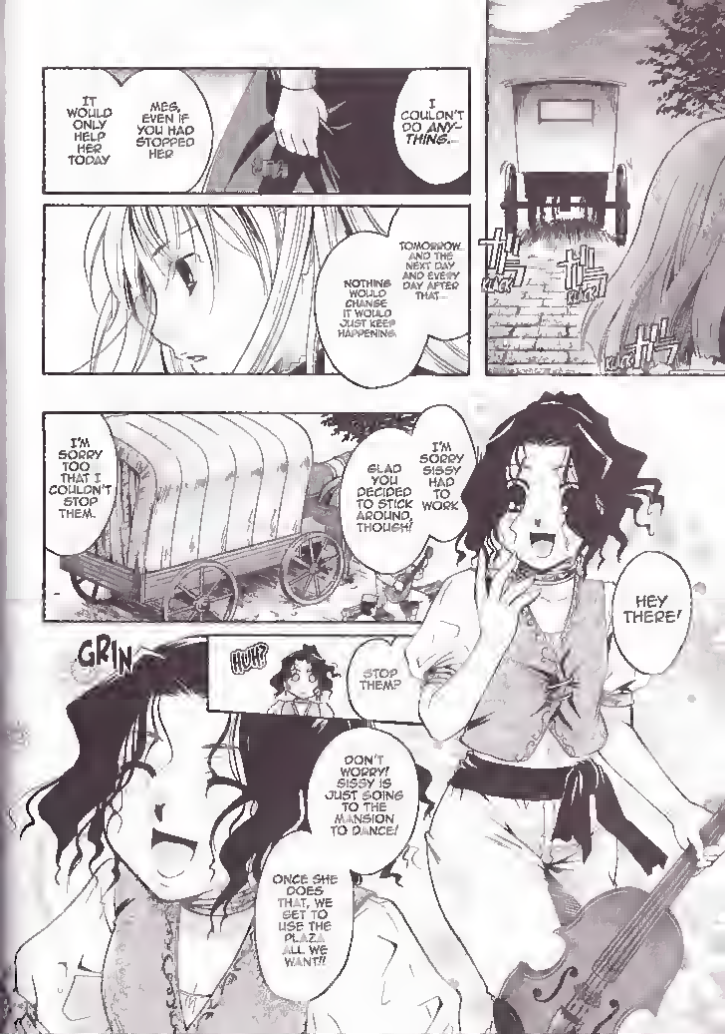

YES, THANK YOU
THIS IS WHERE THE ROMA LIVE?
ARE THEY TRAVELING SOMEWHERE?
THE ROMA ARE A NOMADIC PEOPLE.
RATHER THAN HOARD THEIR MONEY, THEY SPEND IT ON JEWELRY AND ORNAMENTS.
MANY MAKE THEIR LIVING BY FORTUNE-TELLING OR DANCING. THEY WANDER FROM COUNTRY TO COUNTRY, NOT SETTLING ANYWHERE.
NO MATTER WHERE WE GO WE ARE CONSIDERED FOREIGNERS.
IT MAKES US EASY TARGETS...
DINNER'S READY!
WOW!!
OH... YOU SHOULDN'T HAVE.

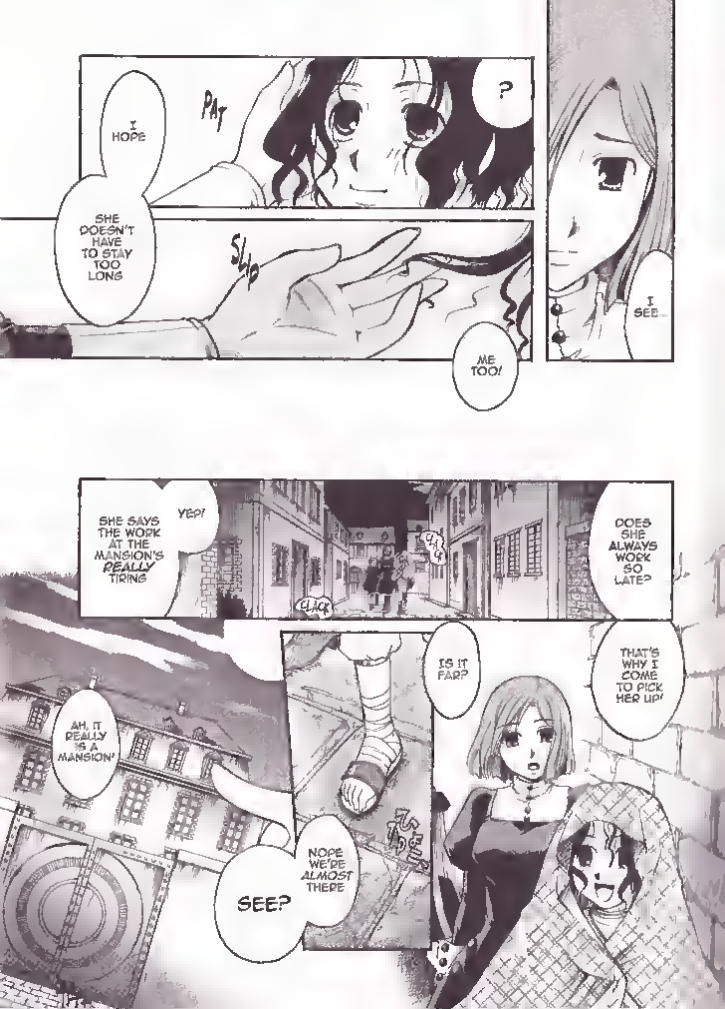

FROOOW
TAP
JUST BEAUTI-FUL!
I THINK SHE'S ASKING YOU TO DANCE
WHA?!
HUH?
SU
IT'S RUDE TO REFUSE AN INVI-TATION.
ANN, YOU GO!
SHAKE
I-I COULDN'T!
SHAKE
SHAKE
SHAKE

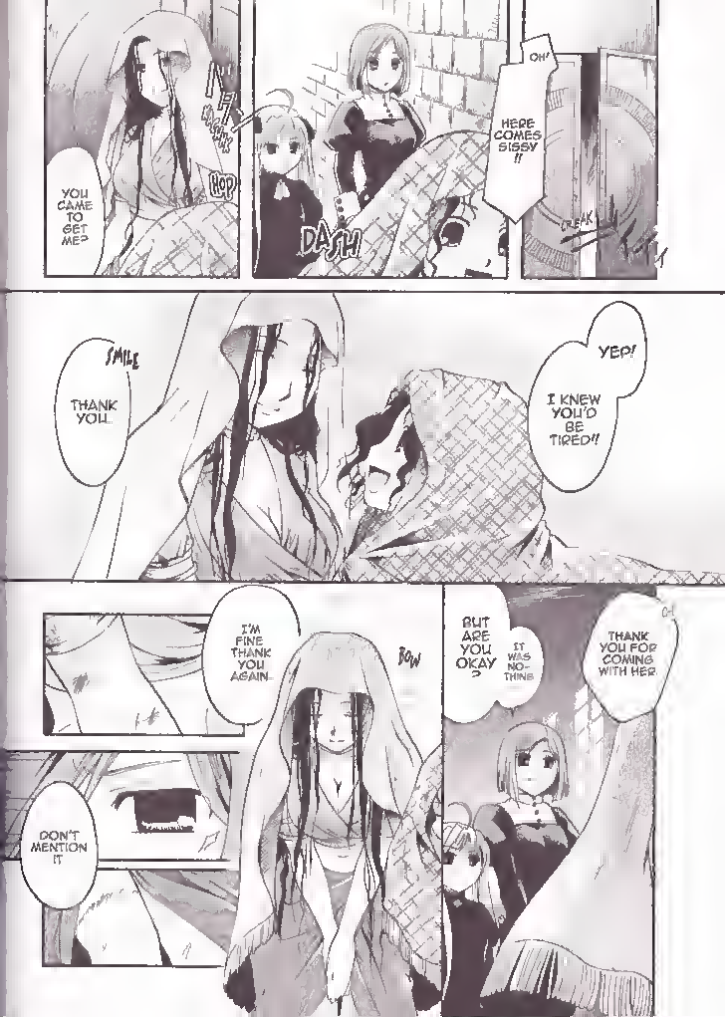

WHOO!
CLAP
CLAP

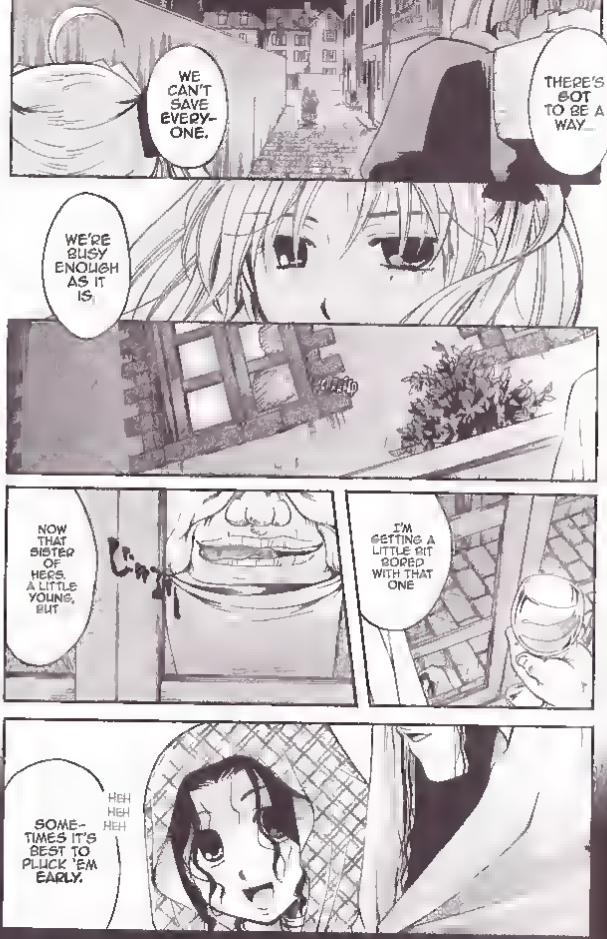

BEAUTIFUL AS ALWAYS
THAT WAS MARVEL-OUS!
GRUMP
GRUMP
?!
...
CAN I HELP YOU, SIR?
?
UM...
ARE YOU LADIES FOREIGNERS TOO?
STILL, YOU HAVE TO PAY WHAT YOU OWE
...
I HEARD YOUR SISTER HURT HER FOOT.
AS THE MAN WHO OVERSEES THE PLAZA I WANTED TO CHECK ON HER

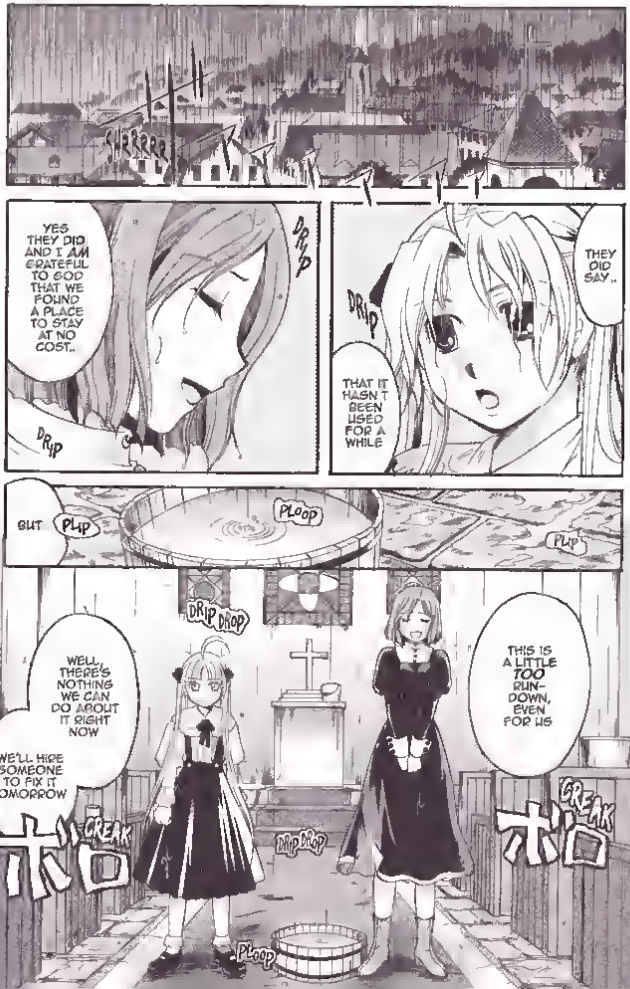

MIGHT BEFALL THAT CUTE LITTLE GIRL.
OR A WORSE ACCIDENT...
YOU COULD PUT ON A "SHOW" FOR ME AS USUAL.
OF COURSE, IF YOU HAVEN'T GOT THE MONEY...
THIS MAN...
HEH
YES, SIR.
HURRY UP!
I'M SORRY TO LEAVE IN THE MIDDLE OF THINGS.
BUT I HAVE TO WORK
WHAT?!
RUSTLE

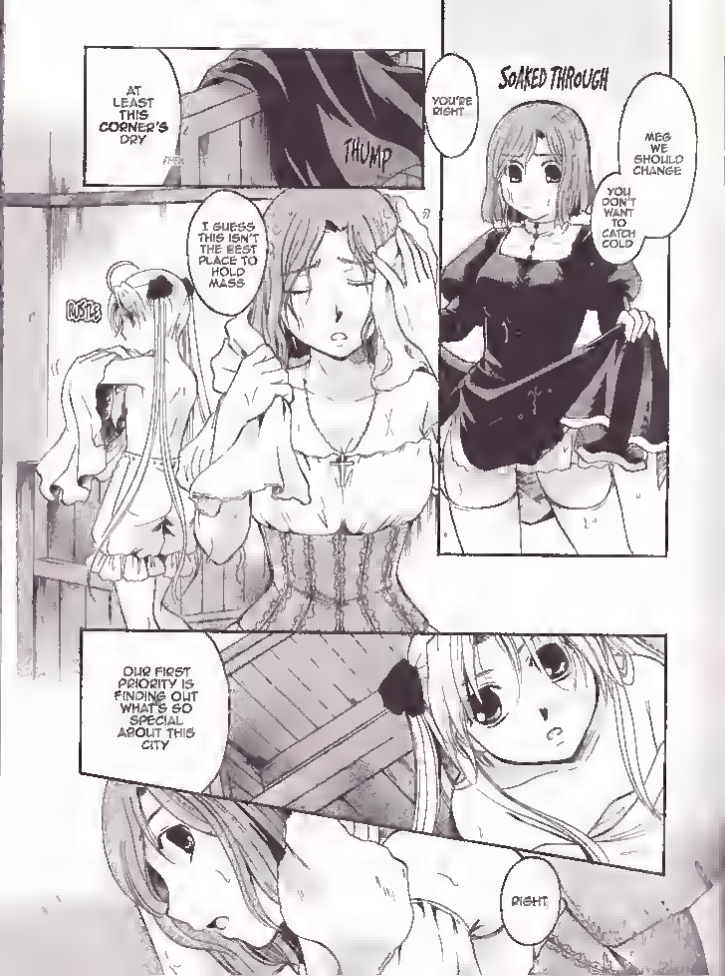

I COULDN'T DO ANY-THING...
MEG, EVEN IF YOU HAD STOPPED HER
IT WOULD ONLY HELP HER TODAY
TOMORROW AND THE NEXT DAY AND EVERY DAY AFTER THAT...
NOTHING WOULD CHANGE IT WOULD JUST KEEP HAPPENING
ガラ ガラ
I'M SORRY SISSY HAD TO WORK
GLAD YOU DECIDED TO STICK AROUND THOUGH!
I'M SORRY TOO THAT I COULDN'T STOP THEM.
HEY THERE!
STOP THEM?
HUH?
GRIN
DON'T WORRY! SISSY IS JUST GOING TO THE MANSION TO DANCE!
ONCE SHE DOES THAT, WE GET TO USE THE PLAZ... ALL WE WANT!!

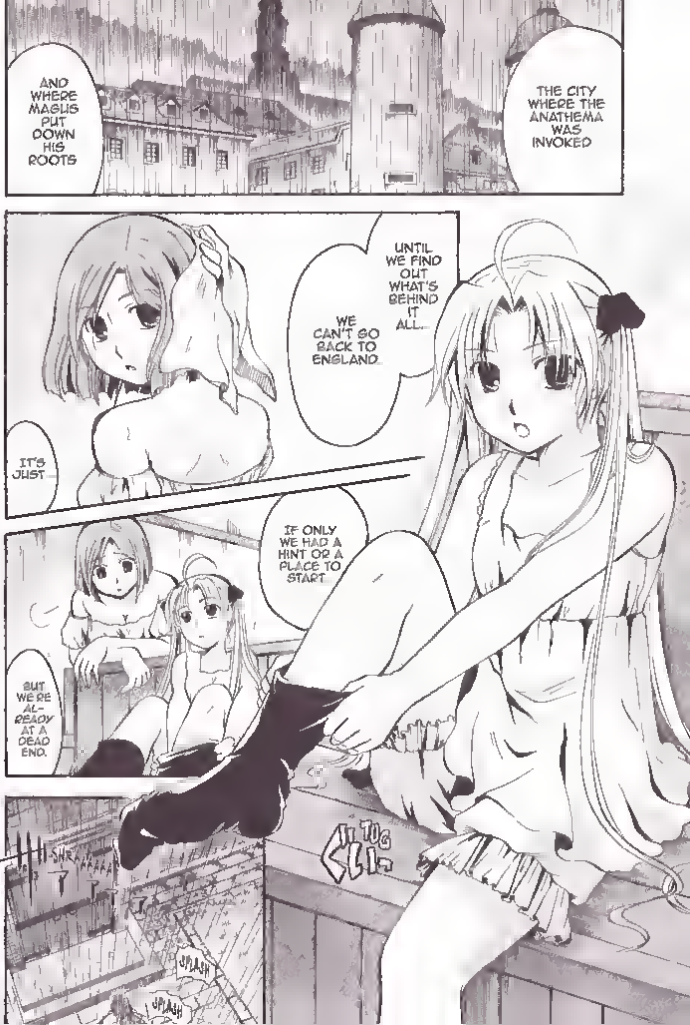

?
PAT
I HOPE
SHE DOESN'T HAVE TO STAY TOO LONG
SLIP
I SEE...
ME TOO!
YEP!
SHE SAYS THE WORK AT THE MANSION'S REALLY TIRING
CLICK
DOES SHE ALWAYS WORK SO LATE?
IS IT FAR?
THAT'S WHY I COME TO PICK HER UP!
AH, IT REALLY IS A MANSION!
NOPE WE'RE ALMOST THERE
SEE?


YOU CAME TO GET ME?
HOP!
DASH!
HERE COMES SISSY !!
OH!
FLICK
YEP!
I KNEW YOU'D BE TIRED!!
SMILE
THANK YOU.
THANK YOU FOR COMING WITH HER.
IT WAS NOTHING
BUT ARE YOU OKAY?
BOW
I'M FINE THANK YOU AGAIN.
DON'T MENTION IT

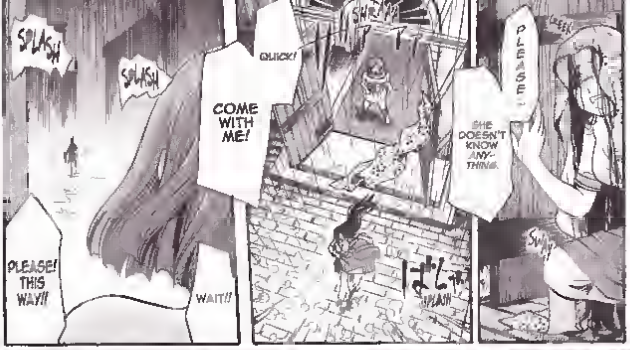

WE CAN'T SAVE EVERY-ONE.
THERE'S GOT TO BE A WAY...
WE'RE BUSY ENOUGH AS IT IS.
NOW THAT SISTER OF HERS, A LITTLE YOUNG, BUT
I'M GETTING A LITTLE BIT BORED WITH THAT ONE
HEH HEH HEH
SOME-TIMES IT'S BEST TO PLUCK 'EM EARLY.


SHARRRR
YES THEY DID AND I AM GRATEFUL TO GOD THAT WE FOUND A PLACE TO STAY AT NO COST..
DRIP
DRIP
THEY DID SAY..
DRIP
THAT IT HASN'T BEEN USED FOR A WHILE
BUT
PLIP
PLOOP
PLIP
DRIP DROP
WELL, THERE'S NOTHING WE CAN DO ABOUT IT RIGHT NOW
THIS IS A LITTLE TOO RUN-DOWN, EVEN FOR US
WE'LL HIRE SOMEONE TO FIX IT TOMORROW
CREAK
ボロ
CREAK
ボロ
DRIP DROP
PLOOP

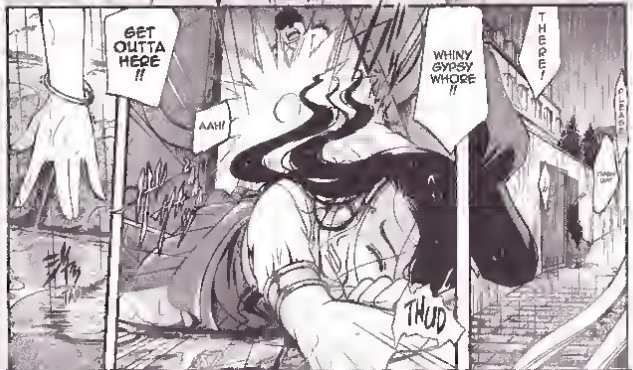

AT LEAST THIS CORNER'S DRY
THUMP
I GUESS THIS ISN'T THE BEST PLACE TO HOLD MASS
DRIP
SOAKED THROUGH
YOU'RE RIGHT
MEG WE SHOULD CHANGE
YOU DON'T WANT TO CATCH COLD
OUR FIRST PRIORITY IS FINDING OUT WHAT'S SO SPECIAL ABOUT THIS CITY
RIGHT

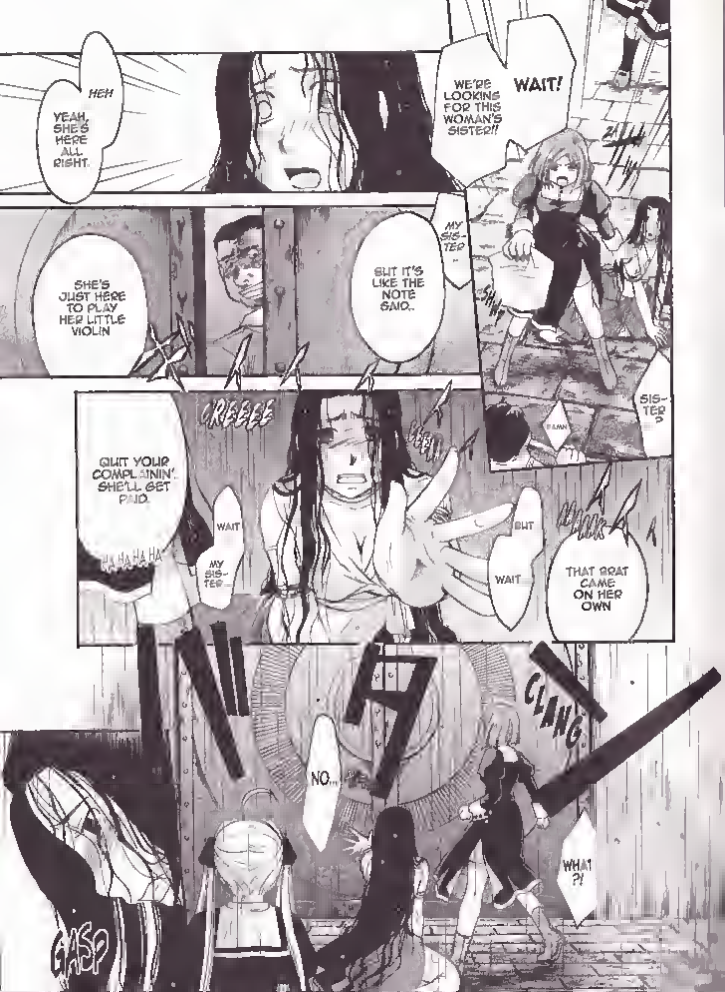

THE CITY WHERE THE ANATHEMA WAS INVOKED
AND WHERE MAGUS PUT DOWN HIS ROOTS
UNTIL WE FIND OUT WHAT'S BEHIND IT ALL...
WE CAN'T GO BACK TO ENGLAND.
IT'S JUST
IF ONLY WE HAD A HINT OR A PLACE TO START.
BUT WE'RE AL-READY AT A DEAD END.
SHE...
SPLASH
SPLASH

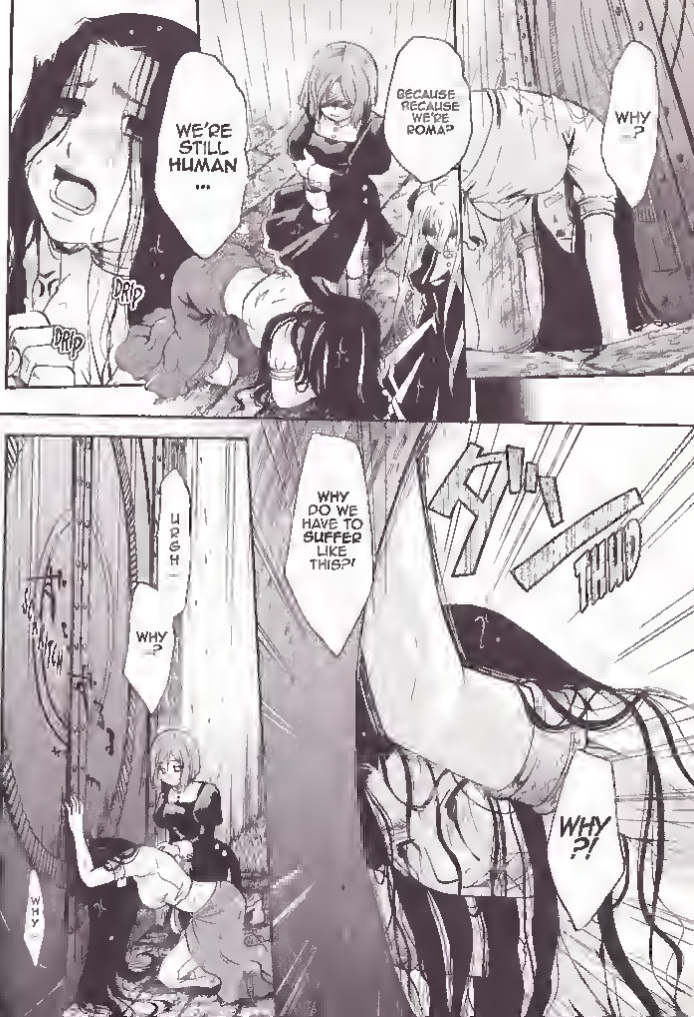
UHH..
IS SOMETHING WRONG?
IT'S THAT GIRL'S SISTER!
I BAIN
CRASH
?!
MY SISTER..
PLEASE! YOU HAVE TO HELP ME!
CLENCH
SHE LEFT ME THIS NOTE
CRACKLE
CALM DOWN
WHAT'S HAPPENED?
THEY WON'T LISTEN TO ME
BUT MAYBE IF YOU COME SISTER !!
SOB
THEY TOLD ME THAT IF I TOOK YOUR PLACE AND PLAYED THE VIOLIN, WE COULD LOSE THE PLAZA. I'LL GO TODAY, SO YOU GET SOME REST, SISSY
?!

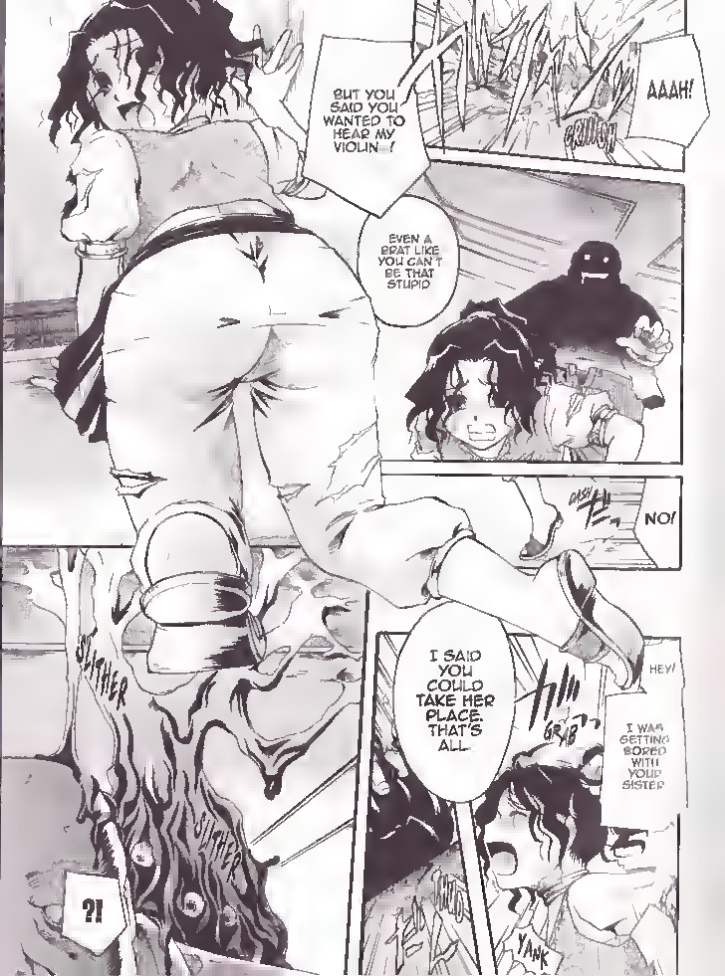

SPLASH
SPLASH
PLEASE! THIS WAY!!
WAIT!!
COME WITH ME!
QUICK!
SHE DOESN'T KNOW ANYTHING.
PLEASE...
SWIP
ばしゃ
SPLASH

ばっ
FLAP
SWISH
SHAAA


GET OUTTA HERE!!
AAH!
WHINY GYPSY WHORE!!
THERE!
CLICK
THUD


HEH
YEAH, SHE'S HERE ALL RIGHT.
WE'RE LOOKING FOR THIS WOMAN'S SISTER!!
WAIT!
SHE'S JUST HERE TO PLAY HER LITTLE VIOLIN
BUT IT'S LIKE THE NOTE SAID..
MY SIS-TER..
SIS-TER?
SHH
CREEEE
QUIT YOUR COMPLAININ'. SHE'LL GET PAID.
HA HA HA HA
WAIT
MY SIS-TER
BUT
WAIT
THAT BRAT CAME ON HER OWN
CLANG
NO...
WHAT?!
GASP

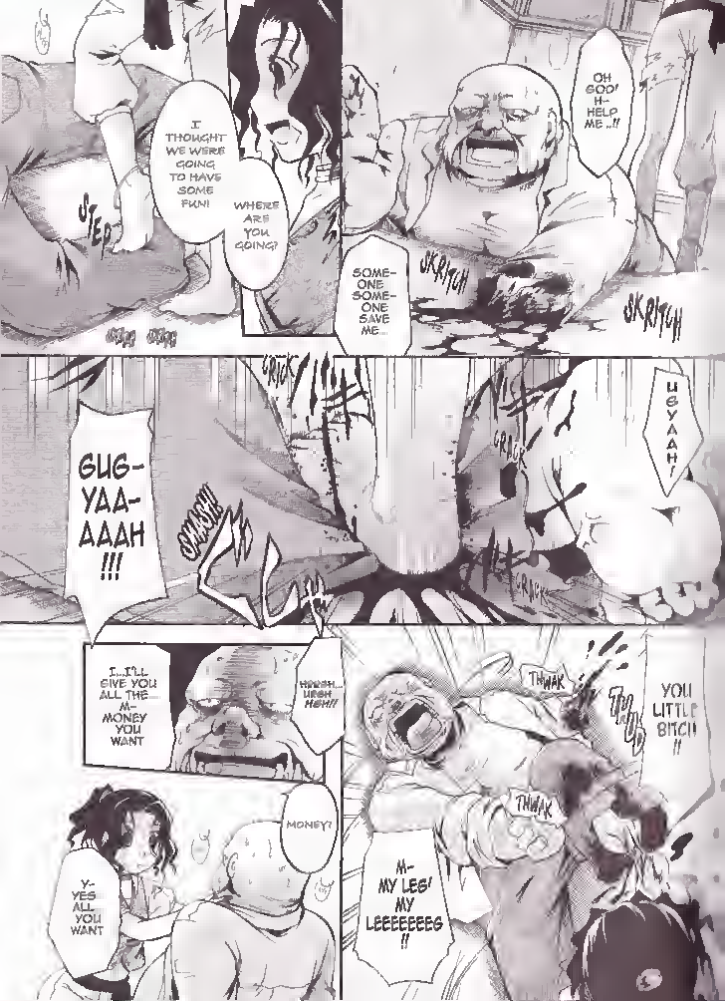

WHY—?
BECAUSE BECAUSE WE'RE ROMA?
WE'RE STILL HUMAN ...
DRIP
DRIP
WHY?!
THUD
WHY DO WE HAVE TO SUFFER LIKE THIS?!
URGH—
WHY—?
WHY—


AAAH!
BUT YOU SAID YOU WANTED TO HEAR MY VIOLIN...!
EVEN A BRAT LIKE YOU CAN'T BE THAT STUPID
NO!
HEY!
I WAS GETTING BORED WITH YOUR SISTER
I SAID YOU COULD TAKE HER PLACE. THAT'S ALL
SLITHER
SLITHER
YANK
21

HEHEHE IT'S NO USE TRYING TO DISTRACT ME
RIP
NO!
WH-WHAT IS THAT THING BEHIND YOU?
SHUDDER
AAH!
NOW QUIET!
SLAP
THWAK
NO.
TUG
WHAT IS THAT BLACK THING? CAN'T HE SEE IT?!
BUT I'M SURE AFTER A WHILE, YOU'LL BE AS TAME AS YOUR SISTER.
THIS IS A NICE CHANGE OF PACE!
ASH
YES, BLAME YOURSELF FOR BEING A GYPSY!
TWITCH
WHAT?!
DO YOU HATE HIM...?
NO
DO YOU HATE THIS MAN?

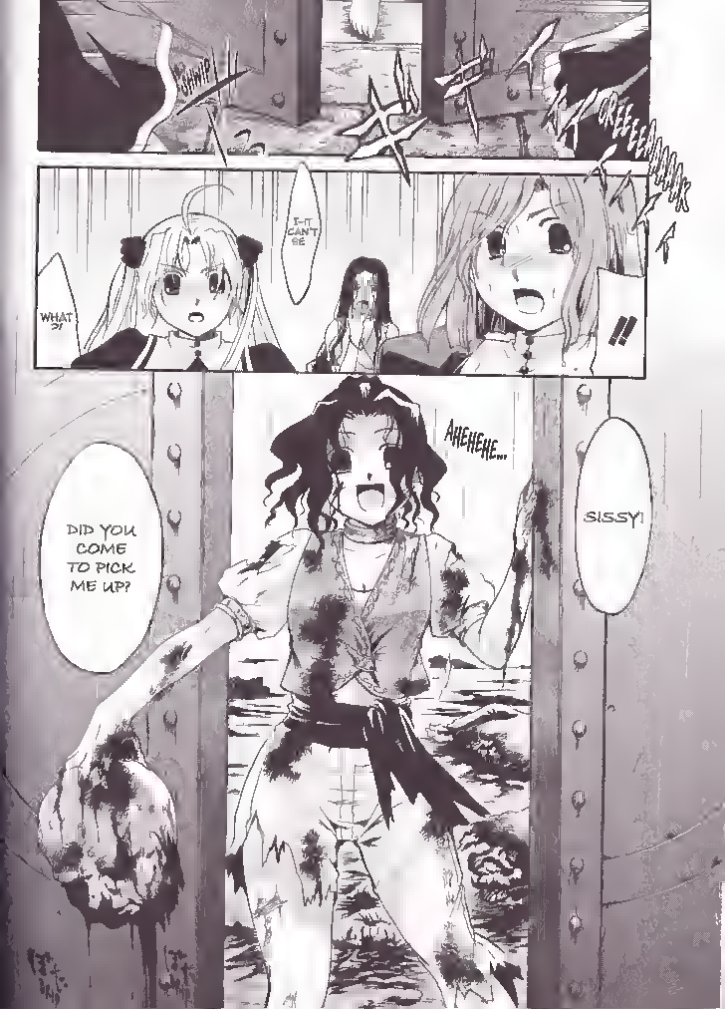
YOU SHOULD JUST...
DIE!!
TWANG
GRRR
THEH...DON'T STOP! HATE HIM MORE! CURSE HIM MORE!! DAMN THIS MAN! DO THIS AND I SHALL LEND YOU MY POWER
HEH
YOU WANNA GET BEAT AGAIN?
WHAT'S WITH THAT LOOK?
I DON'T CARE IF THAT THING IS A DEMON
HE HE
I ASKED YOU, WHAT'S WITH THIS LOOK?
GYPSY FILTH!!
THIS MONSTER...!!
I'LL KILL THIS MAN.
I'LL... CURSE YOU...
YOU...

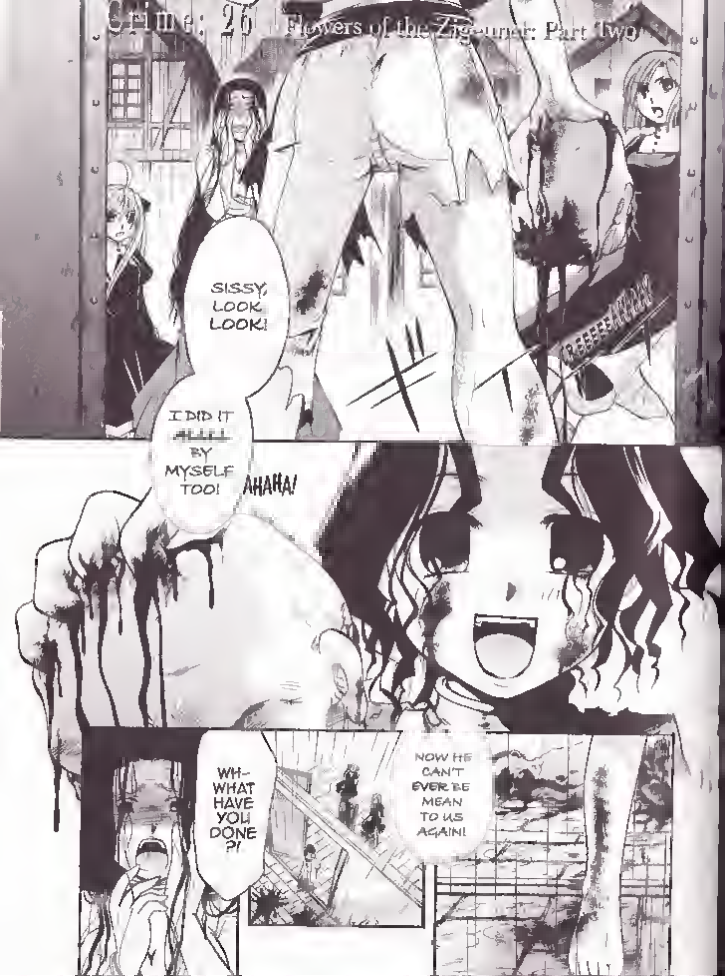
GOOD GIRL...
MMM
THAT'S RIGHT, JUST BE QUIET NOW.
DROP
SWIP
SWIP
SCRUNCH
HUH?
THUMP
WHA--?!
AAAA-AAAA-GH!!
AAAAAAAH!
OH GOD! OH GOD!!
BLURSH
Y-YOU DID THIS, DIDN'T YOU?!
WHAT?!
MY MY HAND!!
HEE
HEE
SQUIRT
SQUIRT


I THOUGHT WE WERE GOING TO HAVE SOME FUN!
WHERE ARE YOU GOING?
UFED
OH GOD! H-HELP ME..!!
SOME-ONE SOME-ONE SAVE ME...
SKRITCH
SKRITCH
GUGYAAH!
GUG-YAA-AAAH !!!
CRACK
CRACK
CRACK
I...I'LL GIVE YOU ALL THE... M-MONEY YOU WANT
HAHAH... HAH... HEH!!
MONEY?
Y-YES... ALL YOU WANT
THWAK
THWAK
YOU LITTLE BITCH !!
M-MY LEG! MY LEEEEEEEG !!

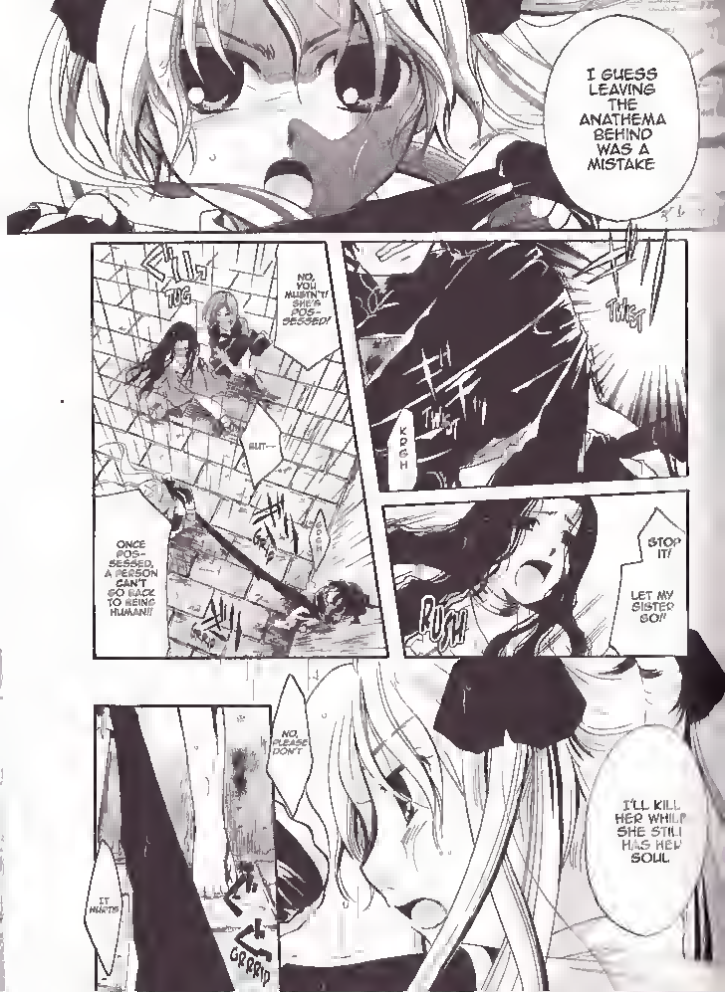
TEE HEE
BUT I DON'T WANT ANY.
HGYAH... BRGH!!
SQUEEZE
SPURT
SPLAT
SPLUP
I DON'T WANT THIS EITHER
SHUFFLE

WHAT IS IT?
BAM!
LOOK OUT!
?!
?!
TWITCH
IS THAT HIM?!
WHAT COULD HAVE--->
IT CAN'T BE...!
!!KKKKKKKKK


SHWIP
SHWIP
KREEEEEEEEEEK
WHAT?
I-IT CAN'T BE
!!
AHEHEHE...
DID YOU COME TO PICK ME UP?
SISSY!


SISSY, LOOK, LOOK!
I DID IT ALL BY MYSELF TOO! AHAHA!
WH-WHAT HAVE YOU DONE?!
NOW HE CAN'T EVER BE MEAN TO US AGAIN!

?!
LET'S GO HOME!
WHAT'S THE MATTER?
STEP
AAH!
BAM!
GRIP
I WASN'T EXPECTING THIS.
ANN?!


I GUESS LEAVING THE ANATHEMA BEHIND WAS A MISTAKE
NO, YOU MUSN'T! SHE'S POSSESSED!
TUG
SLIT--
ONCE POSSESSED, A PERSON CAN'T GO BACK TO BEING HUMAN!!
GRIP
THUD
KDGH
STOP IT!
LET MY SISTER GO!!
BOOM
I'LL KILL HER WHILE SHE STILL HAS HER SOUL
NO, PLEASE DON'T
IT HURTS
GRRRIP

WHY IS EVERY-ONE SO MEAN TO US?!
BAM
SNAP
I'M SICK OF IT!!!
SLAP
HOW COULD YOU?! I THOUGHT YOU WERE NICE!
STUFF
BUT YOU'RE JUST LIKE THE REST OF THEM!
I HATE YOU ALL!!
SWISH

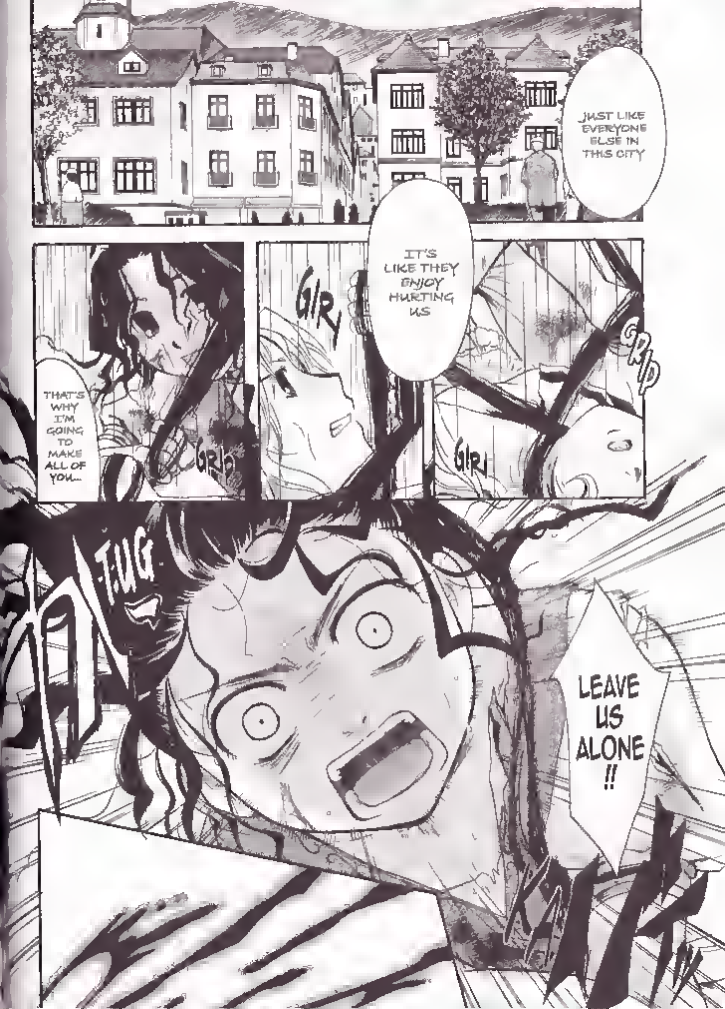
YANK
GAGH!
SWISH
APH!
UGG
GRH

WHY DOES EVERY-ONE HATE US?!
WOOSH
DASH
KROOSH
WOOSH

EVEN YOU HATE US!
BLOCK
THWAK
GRIP
?!
BE A GOOD GIRL NOW...
I'LL MAKE SURE IT WON'T HURT MUCH
AGH!
KRSH

?!
FWIP
SHAK
!!
SHAKK
HEH
H...HP!
SWISH
KRGH!
KRAD
TIL
GRRLN
TIGHTEN
ANGELA!!
HEE
HEE
HEE
...
TIG
TIL
GIRL
OH
GUH!
THUD
DAMN

ANN!!
BUT THAT CAN'T BE
THIS GIRL
TUG
GOTCHA!
SHE SHOULDN'T BE IN THAT CONDITION IF SHE'S POSSESSED!
AH HA HA HA!
NOW YOU CAN'T BE MEAN TO US ANYMORE!
YOU'RE A BAD PERSON TOO AREN'T YOU?
THAT'S WHY YOU'RE MEAN TO US!


JUST LIKE EVERYONE ELSE IN THIS CITY
IT'S LIKE THEY ENJOY HURTING US
GRIP
GRIP
GRIP
THAT'S WHY I'M GOING TO MAKE ALL OF YOU...
TUG
LEAVE US ALONE !!

HUH?
WHAT'S THAT?
TA-THUMP
TA-THUMP
AAAAAAAGH!
IT HURTS
IT HURTS
BUT
WHAT DID YOU DO?!
EASY

SHLIP
IF YOU DON'T HAVE A WEAPON, MAKE ONE.
REACH
SPLAP!
RIP
CRACK
CRACK
FLINCH
?!
AH!

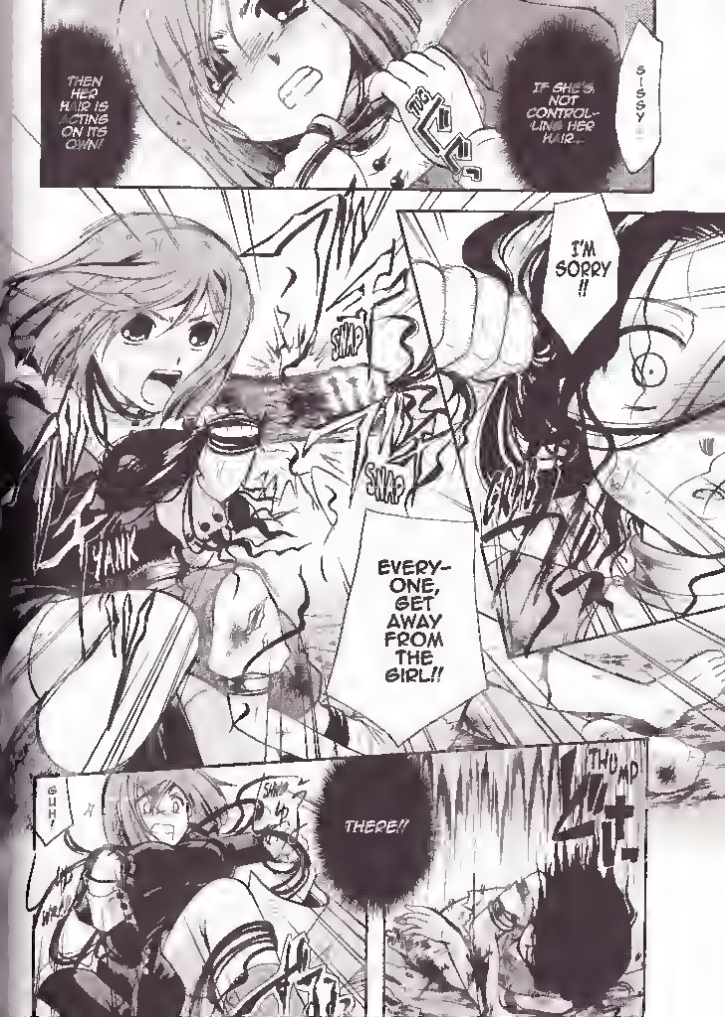
CRACK
SWAP
SWING
HOW
HOW COULD YOU!?
LEAP
WHIRL

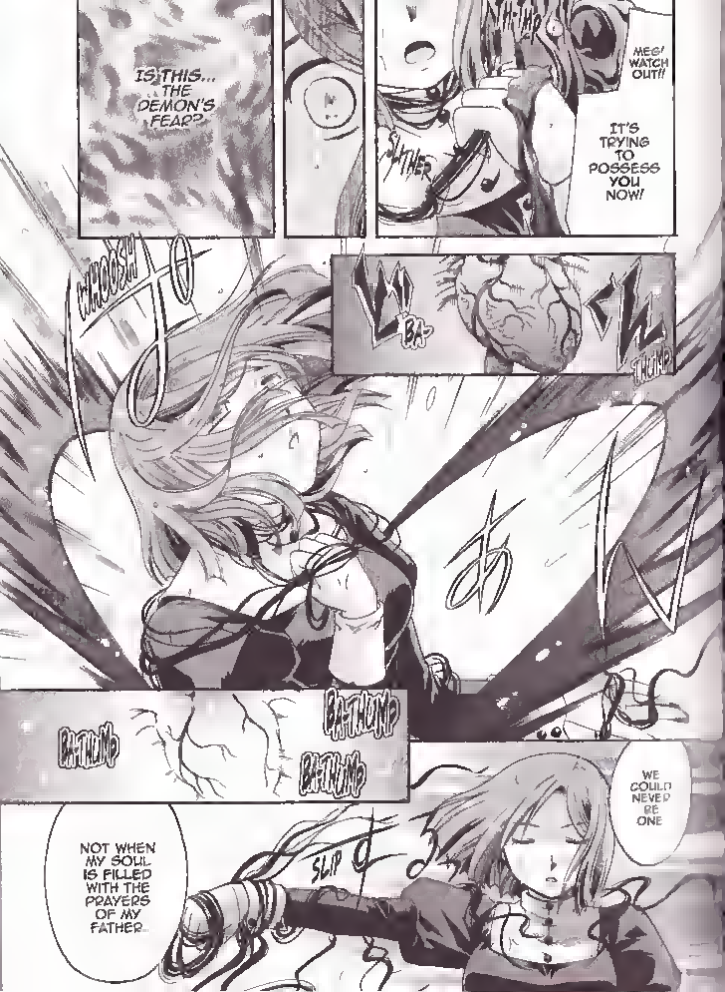
AAAAGH!
AGH!
SLICE
SLICE
?!
I GAVE YOU A CHANCE LITTLE GIRL
SLICE
STAGGER
I COULD'VE GIVEN YOU A QUICK, PAINLESS DEATH

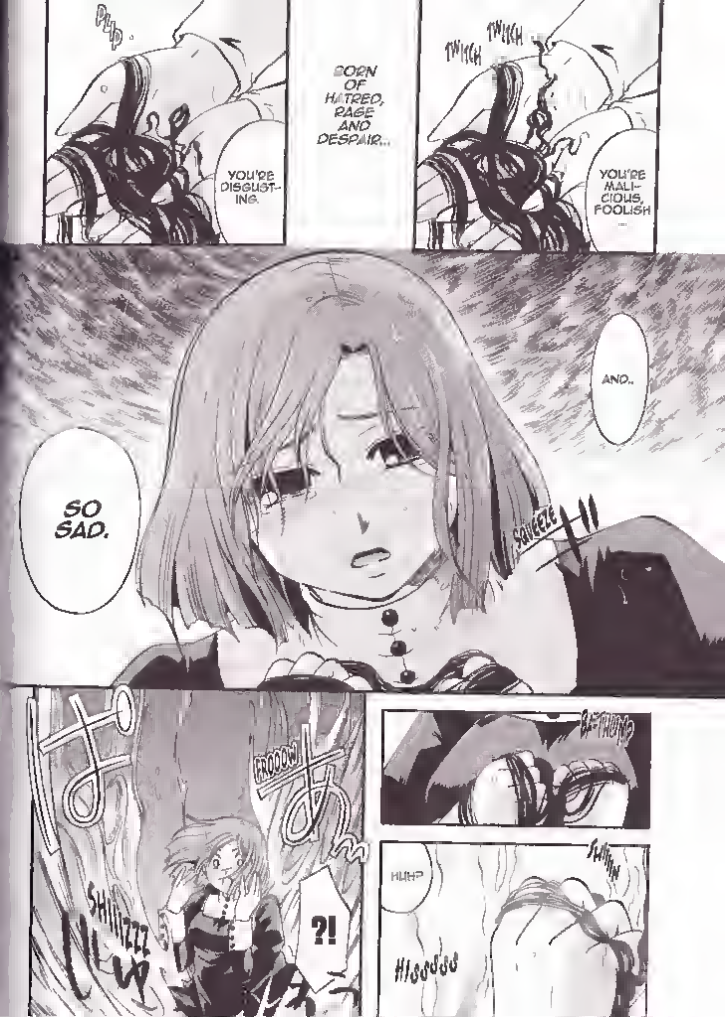
I HOPE YOU'VE MADE YOUR PEACE
SHWOOO
AH!
NOW THEN
SILENCE
HMP!

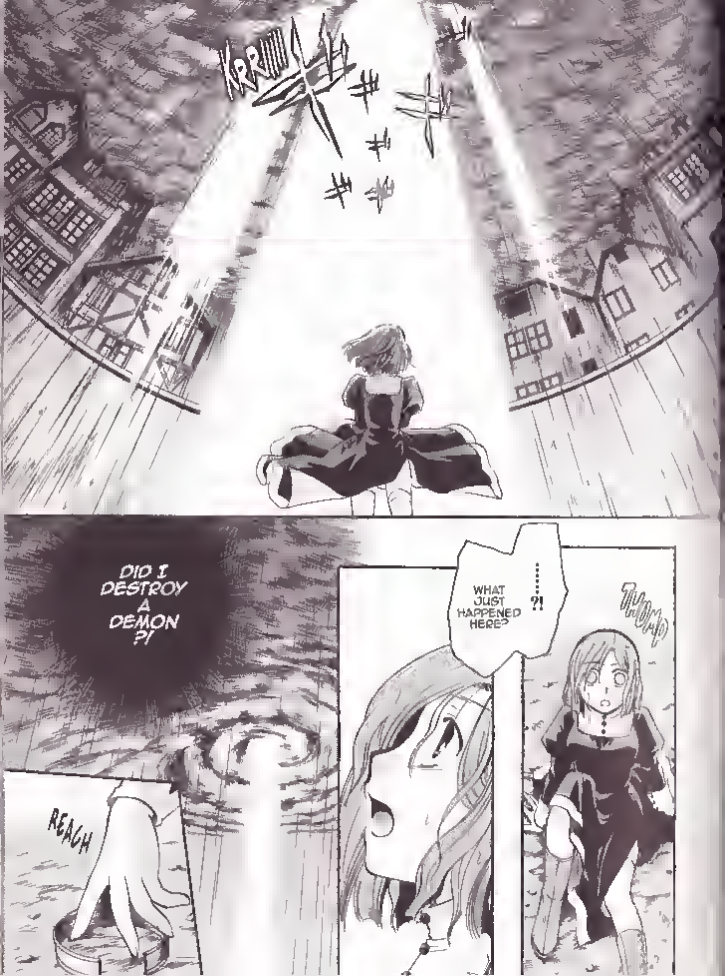
ANN, STOP !!
FLASH
WHAT? WHY?!
ANN, JUST LISTEN! YOU MUSTN'T KILL HER!!
THIS ISN'T RIGHT SHE'S NOT TRANS-FORMING AND HER WOUNDS AREN'T HEALING THEM-SELVES
THIS GIRL ISN'T POS-SESSED! JUST LOOK AT HER!!
SISSY
HUH?

!!
SWISH
I...I DON'T WANT THIS!! THIS ISN'T ME!!
GRIP
GIRI
GIRI
MEG !!
I KNEW IT!! THE DEMON CAN'T SEEM TO POSSESS THIS GIRL, SO IT'S TRYING TO FIND A SUITABLE VESSEL!
IT'S MY HAIR! I CAN'T STOP IT FROM MOVING!! I'M SCARED
PLEASE... HELP ME!!
IT'S ALL RIGHT...
SMILE
GRIP
GRIP
AND I WILL SAVE YOU
TOUCH
I'M RIGHT HERE.
URGH!
GIRI GIRI
CAW!


THEN HER HAIR IS ACTING ON ITS OWN!!
IF SHE'S NOT CONTROLLING HER HAIR...
SISSY...
I'M SORRY!!
SWAP
SWAP
YANK
EVERYONE, GET AWAY FROM THE GIRL!!
GUH!
SHOVE
THERE!!
THUMP


IS THIS... THE DEMON'S FEAR?
SLITHER
MEG! WATCH OUT!!
IT'S TRYING TO POSSESS YOU NOW!
KKOOSH
BA-
THUMP
BA-THUMP
BA-THUMP
BA-THUMP
SLIP
WE COULD NEVER BE ONE
NOT WHEN MY SOUL IS FILLED WITH THE PRAYERS OF MY FATHER

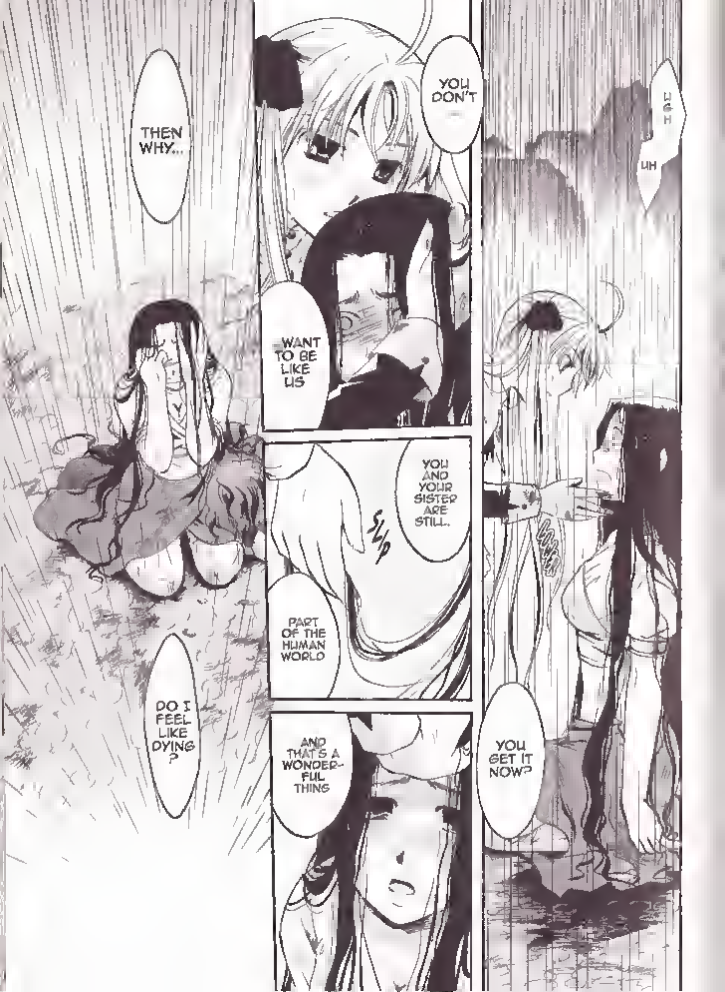

PLIP.
YOU'RE DISGUSTING.
BORN OF HATRED, RAGE AND DESPAIR...
TWITCH TWITCH
YOU'RE MALICIOUS, FOOLISH
AND..
SO SAD.
SQUEEZE
FROOOW
SHIIIZZZ
?!
BE-THUMP
HUH?
Hiiiiii
SHRINK

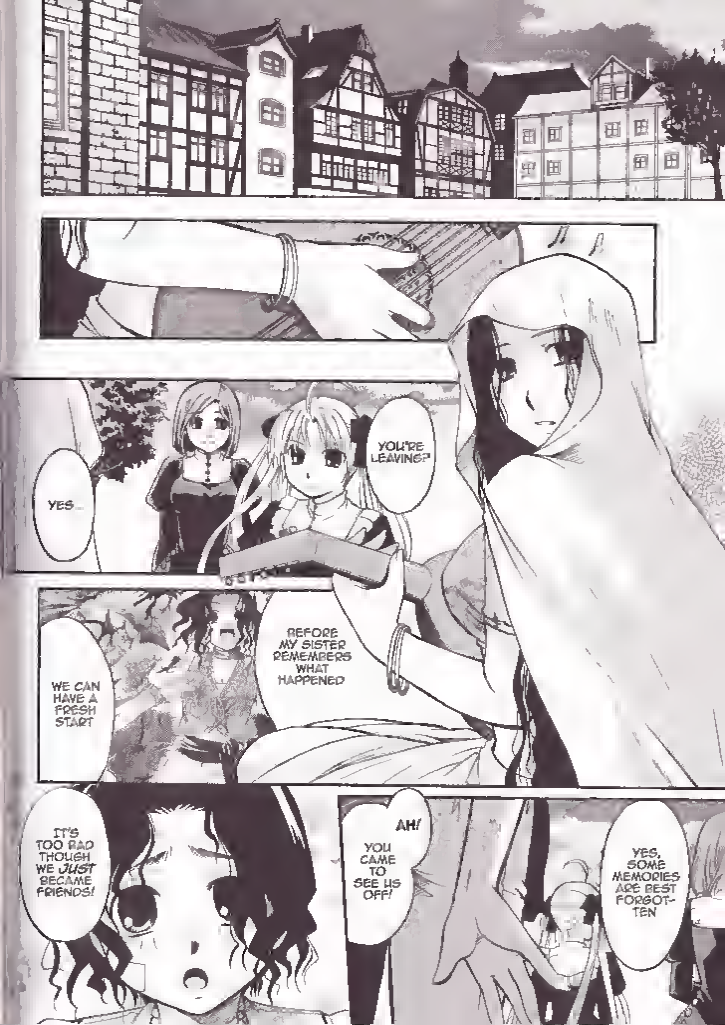

KRRUU
DID I DESTROY A DEMON?!
REACH
WHAT JUST HAPPENED HERE?
.....?!
THUMP

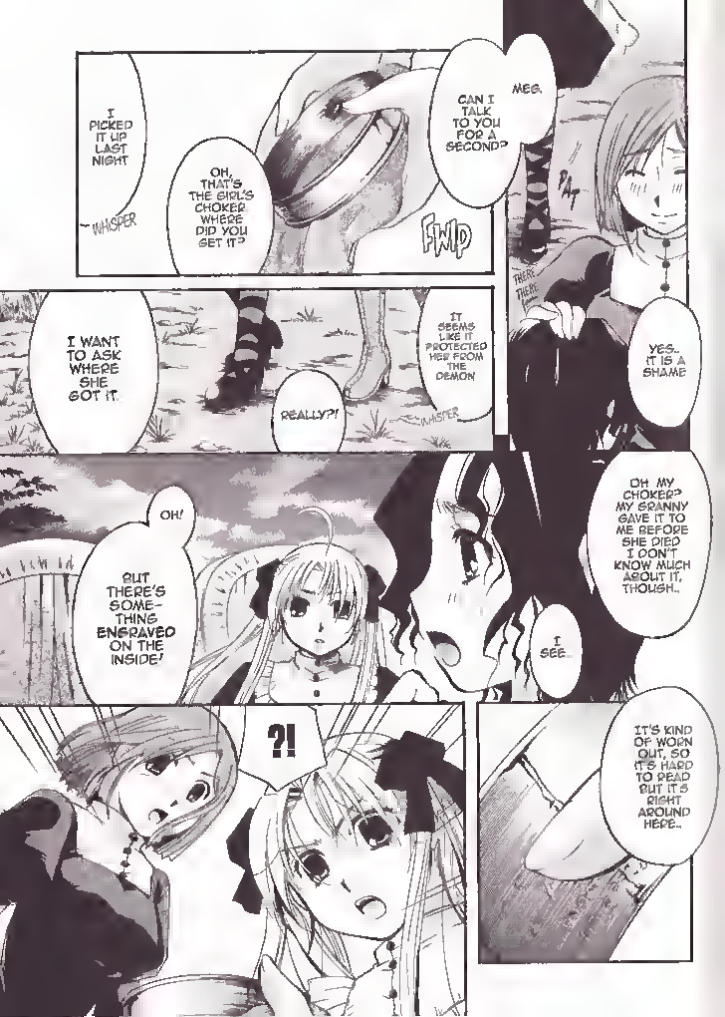
...
I HATE THIS WORLD!!
WHAT HAVE WE DONE TO DESERVE THIS?!
I CAN'T!
I CAN'T DO IT ANYMORE!
PLEASE!
TAKE US WITH YOU!!! TAKE US ANYWHERE OUT HERE!!
FWIP
I'M SORRY..
BUT THIS IS THE ONLY WORLD IN WHICH YOU CAN SURVIVE...

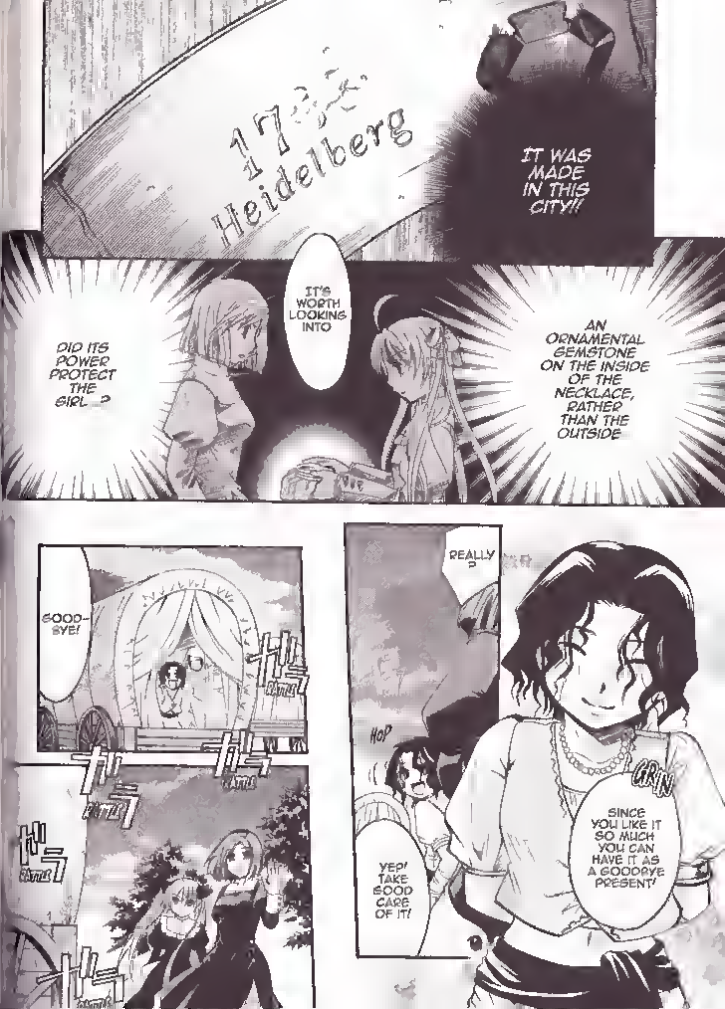
ANY-WHERE IS BETTER THAN HERE!
PLEASE TAKE US WITH YOU!
YOU DON'T KNOW...
HOW BEAUTI-FUL THIS WOULD CAN BE
HERE, LOOK INTO MY EYES.
?!

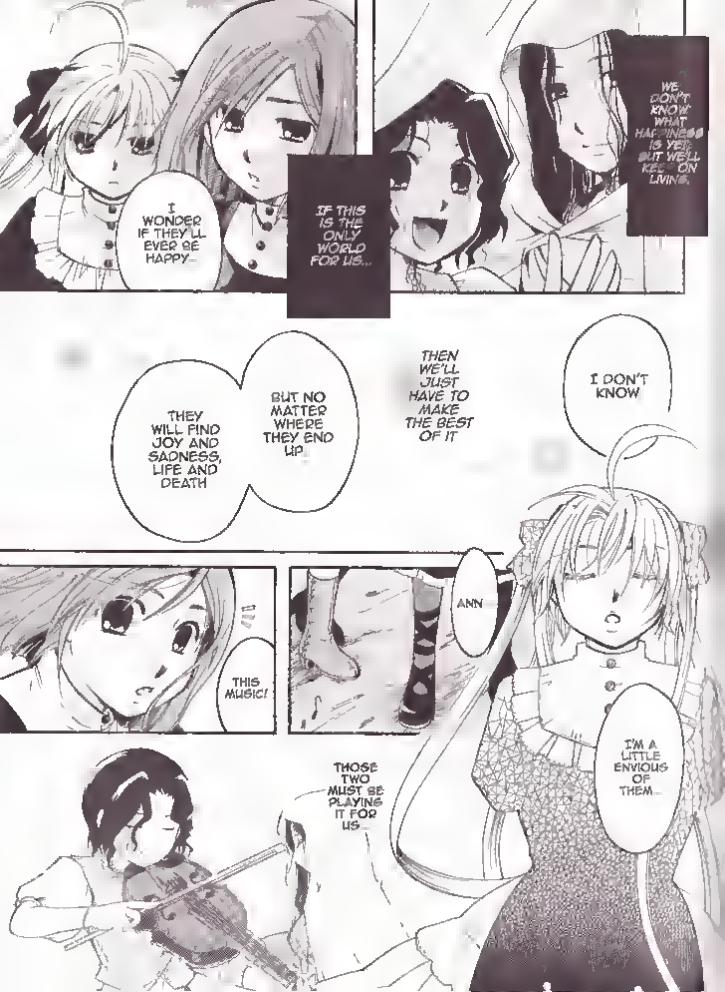
THIS IS THE OTHER WORLD YOU SEEK.
AH
AHH...
AGH...
THE WORLD WE LIVE IN.

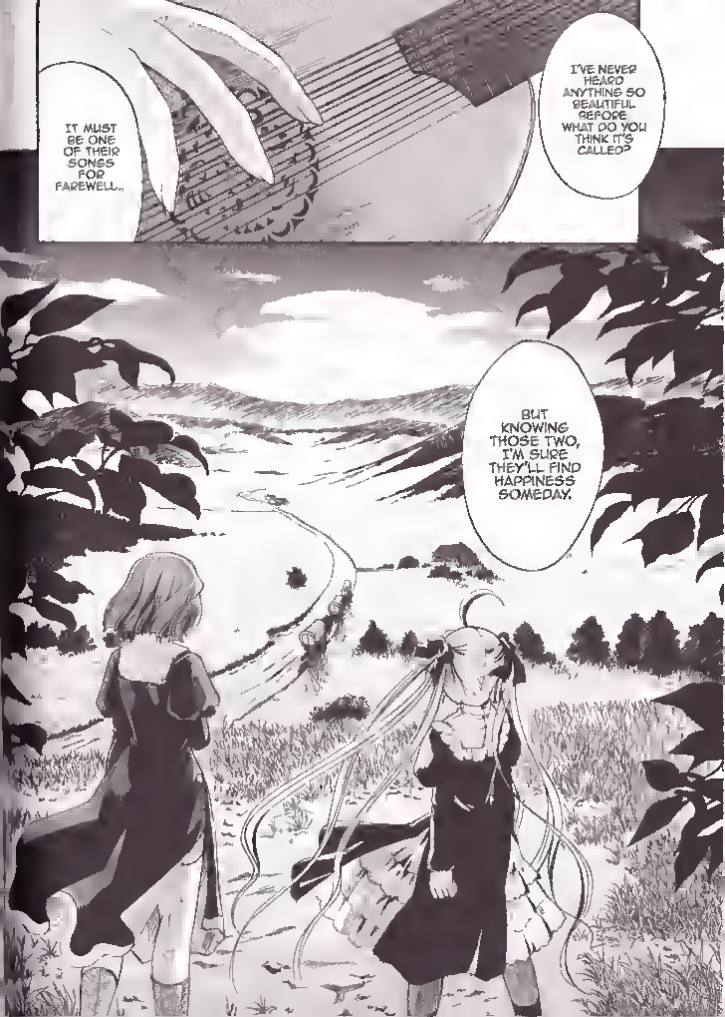

HA HA HA
YOU GET IT NOW?
AND THAT'S A WONDER-FUL THING
PART OF THE HUMAN WORLD
YOU AND YOUR SISTER ARE STILL..
SIP
WANT TO BE LIKE US
YOU DON'T
DO I FEEL LIKE DYING?
THEN WHY...


YOU'RE LEAVING?
YES...
BEFORE MY SISTER REMEMBERS WHAT HAPPENED
WE CAN HAVE A FRESH START
YES, SOME MEMORIES ARE BEST FORGOTTEN
AH! YOU CAME TO SEE US OFF!
IT'S TOO BAD THOUGH WE JUST BECAME FRIENDS!


MEG.
CAN I TALK TO YOU FOR A SECOND?
FWIP
I PICKED IT UP LAST NIGHT
~WHISPER
OH, THAT'S THE GIRL'S CHOKER. WHERE DID YOU GET IT?
PAT
THERE, THERE
YES... IT IS A SHAME
IT SEEMS LIKE IT PROTECTED HER FROM THE DEMON
I WANT TO ASK WHERE SHE GOT IT.
REALLY?!
~WHISPER
OH MY CHOKER? MY GRANNY GAVE IT TO ME BEFORE SHE DIED. I DON'T KNOW MUCH ABOUT IT, THOUGH..
I SEE..
OH!
BUT THERE'S SOMETHING ENGRAVED ON THE INSIDE!
IT'S KIND OF WORN OUT, SO IT'S HARD TO READ BUT IT'S RIGHT AROUND HERE..
?!


1732
Heidelberg
IT WAS MADE IN THIS CITY!!
IT'S WORTH LOOKING INTO
DID ITS POWER PROTECT THE GIRL...?
AN ORNAMENTAL GEMSTONE ON THE INSIDE OF THE NECKLACE, RATHER THAN THE OUTSIDE
GOOD-BYE!
CLATTER
REALLY?
HOP
GRIN
SINCE YOU LIKE IT SO MUCH YOU CAN HAVE IT AS A GOODBYE PRESENT!
YEP! TAKE GOOD CARE OF IT!


I WONDER IF THEY'LL EVER BE HAPPY...
IF THIS IS THE ONLY WORLD FOR US...
WE DON'T KNOW WHAT HAPPINESS IS YET, BUT WE'LL KEEP ON LIVIN'.
I DON'T KNOW
THEN WE'LL JUST HAVE TO MAKE THE BEST OF IT
BUT NO MATTER WHERE THEY END UP...
THEY WILL FIND JOY AND SADNESS, LIFE AND DEATH
ANN...
I'M A LITTLE ENVIOUS OF THEM...
THIS MUSIC!
THOSE TWO MUST BE PLAYING IT FOR US...

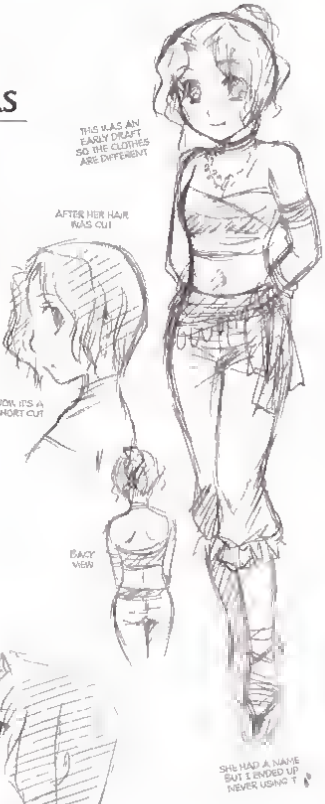

I'VE NEVER HEARD ANYTHING SO BEAUTIFUL BEFORE. WHAT DO YOU THINK IT'S CALLED?
IT MUST BE ONE OF THEIR SONGS FOR FAREWELL..
BUT KNOWING THOSE TWO, I'M SURE THEY'LL FIND HAPPINESS SOMEDAY.

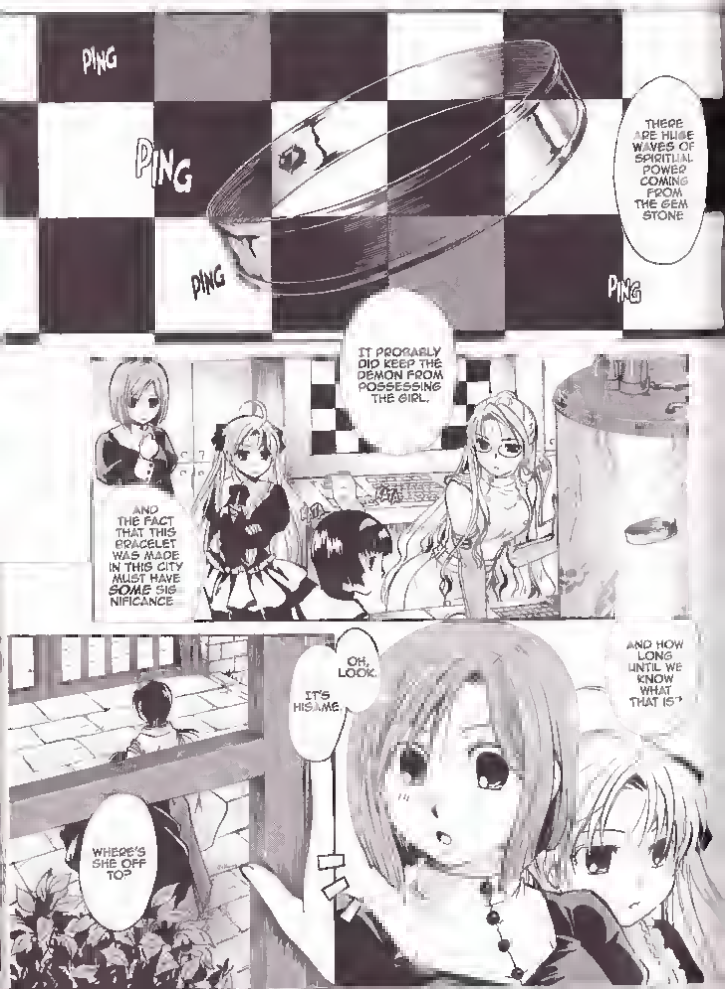
WHEN I WENT TO DRAW THE MOST OBVIOUS
BAD GUY EVER, THIS IS WHAT CAME OUT...

THE ROMA SISTERS

AGES: OLDER SISTER ABOUT 24
YOUNGER SISTER – ABOUT 13
PLACE OF ORIGIN: UNKNOWN

I had decided on both their names but they were never used in the text. So these unfortunate sisters remain nameless. My editor U-san gave me the idea to include characters from a different ethnic group and thus they were born. I guess I could have let them be a little happier...
I digress, but I really like the part where Angel dances at the Roma's feast.

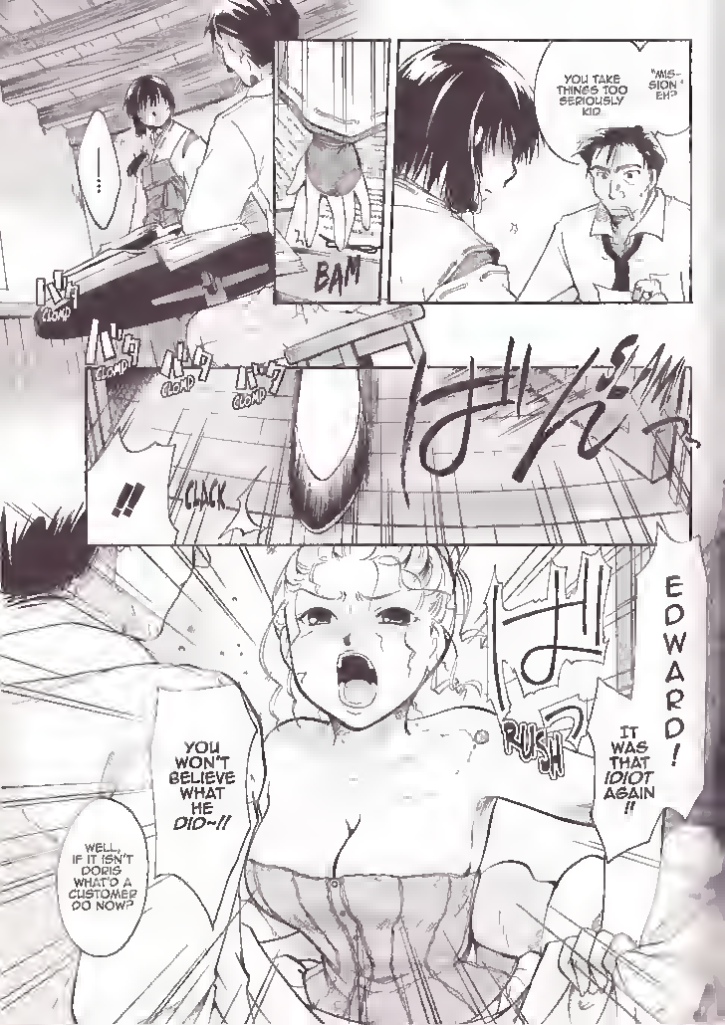

THIS WAS AN EARLY DRAFT SO THE CLOTHES ARE DIFFERENT
AFTER HER HAIR WAS CUT
NOW IT'S A SHORT CUT
BACK VIEW
SHE HAD A NAME BUT I ENDED UP NEVER USING IT


PING
PING
PING
PING
THERE ARE HUGE WAVES OF SPIRITUAL POWER COMING FROM THE GEM STONE
IT PROBABLY DID KEEP THE DEMON FROM POSSESSING THE GIRL.
AND THE FACT THAT THIS BRACELET WAS MADE IN THIS CITY MUST HAVE *SOME* SIGNIFICANCE.
AND HOW LONG UNTIL WE KNOW WHAT THAT IS?
OH, LOOK.
IT'S HISAME.
WHERE'S SHE OFF TO?

Crime: 27 Undine: Part One

KACHA
HEY COME ON IN
WHAT A DUMP
YOU COULDN'T FIND ANYTHING BETTER?
HEY LEAVE ME ALONE! THIS KIND OF PLACE SUITS ME!
RUSTLE
I HAD TO KEEP CHECKING MY GERMAN-ENGLISH DICTIONARY BUT A FEW THINGS CAUGHT MY EYE
ANY-THING USEFUL IN THOSE POLICE REPORTS?
RUSTL

POLICE STATION
BOOT
THUNK
THUNK
PLOP
WELL, FOR A MAN WHO DOESN'T SPEAK GERMAN, YOU DID PRETTY GOOD.
GOOD THING YOU KNEW ENOUGH GERMAN FOR THE BOTH OF US, THOUGH!
HA HA HA HA!
WELL, MY HOME COUNTRY WORKS CLOSELY WITH GERMANY IT RUBS OFF ON YOU
THAT I GET, BUT WHAT ABOUT ALL THOSE OTHER LANGUAGES YOU KNOW?
I WAS TAUGHT THEM AT A YOUNG AGE
ALL SO I CAN FULFILL MY APPOINTED MISSION
IT WAS PART OF MY TRAINING


YOU TAKE THINGS TOO SERIOUSLY KID
"MISSION" EH?
BAM
CLOMP
CLOMP
CLOMP
CLOMP
!!
CLACK
SLAM
RUSH
EDWARD!
IT WAS THAT IDIOT AGAIN!!
YOU WON'T BELIEVE WHAT HE DID~!!
WELL, IF IT ISN'T DORIS WHAT'D A CUSTOMER DO NOW?

*BILINGUAL
*ENGLISH
WELL I HAVE NO IDEA WHAT YOU'RE SAYING!
HA HA HA HA
BUT IT CAN'T BE THAT BAD CHIN UP, LOVE!
CLEARLY, YOU DON'T TAKE ANYTHING SERIOUSLY, OLD MAN
OH, IT MAKES ME SOOOO MAD!!
IT WAS THAT OLD PERVERT! HE WENT AND TRIED TO GET MONEY OUT OF ME AFTER EVERY-THING'S SAID AND DONE!
*GERMAN
BLAH BLAH
BLAH BLAH
WHAT?!
ME AND THAT MAN?! NEVER!
OHH, ARE YOU EDWARD'S SWEETIE?
OH!
SWIP
SO HOW'S THE SEX?
EHP
I'D MARRY HIM IN A HEARTBEAT ♡
AND ALL THIS TIME HE'S BEEN SAYING "I LIKE MY WOMEN RIPE FOR THE TAKING." BUT THEN HE PICKS A SWEET YOUNG THING LIKE YOU.
POKE
I'M NOT SO...
...
HIS GERMAN'S AWFUL, BUT HE'S A GOOD GUY!

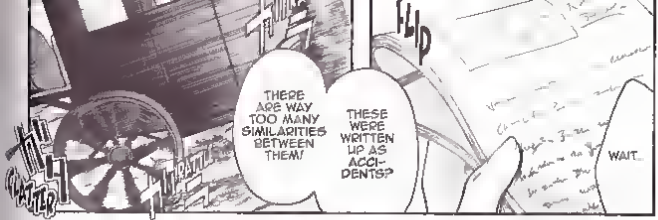
I AM A PRIEST-ESS!
AND A VIRGIN!!
?
WHA...?
URK
HOW RUDE!
HOW
SWIPE
GASP
?

HE HE HE HE
S-SORRY
I, I SEE
AHAHAHA
おはは
HEY DORIS!
CAN YOU LEND US SOME CLOTHES?
HEY DID YOU HEAR ME? CLOTHES. WE NEED CLOOOTHES!
OKAY, OKAY I'LL GET YA SOME
STLD
SHUT UP!
SO WHAT WAS THAT ALL ABOUT?
RUSTLE
AHA HA HA!
GIGGLE
GIGGLE
WELL, WHATEVER... ANYWAY, TRY THESE ON.
RUSTLE
WHAT'S THIS?
A DRESS NOW GET CHANGED YOUR OUTFIT STICKS OUT LIKE A SORE THUMB
FWIP
RUSTLE

Y-
YOU-YOU-YOU EXPECT ME TO WEAR THIS?!
RUSTLE
YOU STAND OUT ENOUGH BECAUSE YOU'RE FOREIGN
YOU SHOULD AT LEAST DRESS LIKE A LOCAL
NO
NO WAY! WHY WOULD I WEAR WESTERN GARB?!
I TOLD YA, YOU ATTRACT TOO MUCH ATTENTION IN THAT GET-UP
THEN YOU CAN GO ALONE!!
BUT I DON'T SPEAK GERMAN
CLUNK
WHAT IS REALLY ANNOYING IS THAT HE'S RIGHT
CLICK
I'LL BE DOWN-STAIRS
CLENCH
GRRR
WHAT TOOK YA SO LONG?
OH WELL, I HAVE A CARRIAGE WAITING OVER HERE
KA-CLUNK
Y-YES...
BUT ABOUT THESE CLOTHES
SU

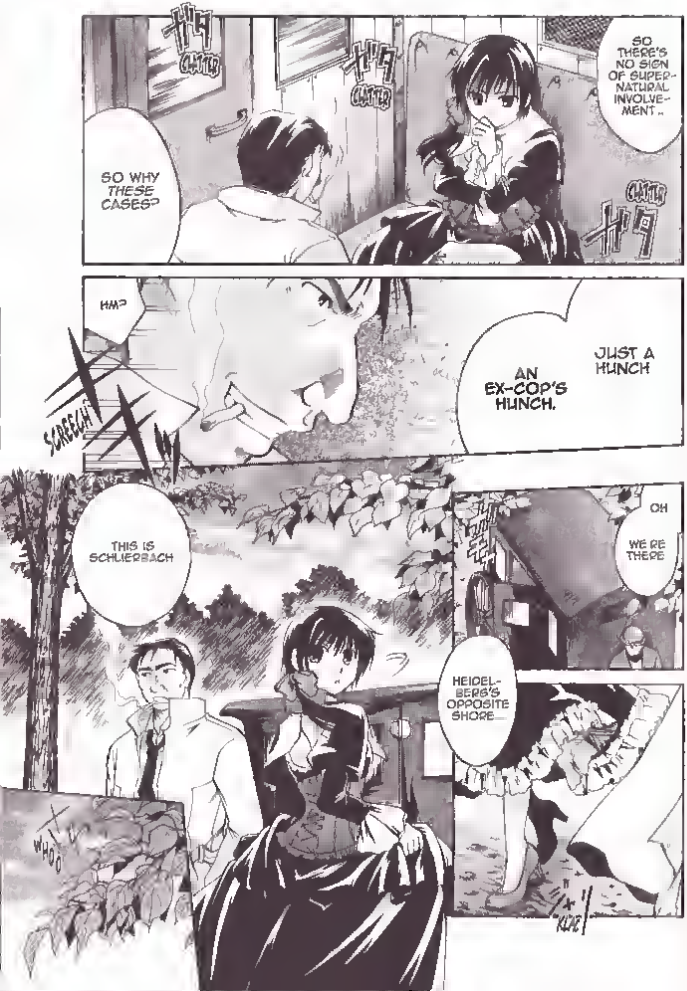
HEY
THEY LOOK PRETTY GOOD ON YA.
I DIDN'T PUT THEM ON FOR YOU!!
I JUST THOUGHT IT'D BE MORE CONVENIENT. THAT'S A...
RIFFLE
ALL RIGHT, LL RIGHT, LET'S GO.
WELL...
THIS IS SOMETHING I'VE BEEN THINKING ABOUT FOR A WHILE, SIT...
SO WHAT WAS SO INTERESTING IN THE POLICE REPORT?

AND EVEN IF THIS ISN'T A BIG CITY, WE'LL NEVER GET ANYWHERE IF WE DON'T FOCUS OUR INVESTIGATION
IN THIS CITY...
THERE'S SOMETHING THAT AWAKENED THE LITTLE GIRLS' ANATHEMA
RUSTLE
WHAT'S THAT?
WHEREVER IT IS SHOULD BE A HOT SPOT FOR DEMON ACTIVITY
IF SOMETHING IS HIDING IN THIS CITY
RUSTLE
WELL, TAKE A CLOSER LOOK
WHERE WILL THESE GET US?
LOOKS LIKE NOTHING MORE THAN A LIST OF ACCIDENTAL DEATHS
A PUNCH OF COLD CASES THAT THE COPS HERE DON'T BOTHER WITH ANYMORE
RUSTLE
RUSTLE


FLIP
WAIT...
THESE WERE WRITTEN UP AS ACCI-DENTS?
THERE ARE WAY TOO MANY SIMILARITIES BETWEEN THEM!
RATTLE

THE DECEASED ARE ALL MEN. THE TIMES OF DEATH ARE CLOSE, AND THE LOCATION IS ALWAYS THE SAME.
AND ALL OF THEM HAD SEAWEED FOUND IN THEIR THROATS.
IT'S NOT SOMETHING YOU'D NOTICE IF YOU WERE WORKING CASE BY CASE.

AS FOR THE SEAWEED, IT'S NOT THAT STRANGE. IT'S A REGION WHERE A LOT OF IT GROWS.
ACCIDENTS DO HAPPEN NOW AND THEN.
AND IT'S NOT LIKE THE POLICE AREN'T LOOKING INTO IT.
SUCK


SO THERE'S NO SIGN OF SUPER-NATURAL INVOLVE-MENT..
CLICK
CLICK
CLICK
SO WHY THESE CASES?
HM?
SCREECH
JUST A HUNCH
AN EX-COP'S HUNCH.
OH
WE'RE THERE
THIS IS SCHLIERBACH
HEIDEL-BERG'S OPPOSITE SHORE...
WHOO
KUZE

PLIP
PLIP
THIS IS WHERE THEY FOUND THE BODIES.
THIS PLACE...
SO LET'S...
HUH?

HEY, YOU!
EXCUSE US
WE WANTED TO ASK YOU ABOUT SOME-THING...
OH, THAT? THOSE WERE JUST ACCIDENTS.
PLOP
BUT IN SUCH A CALM RIVER?
A COUPLE OF DEATHS ARE BOUND TO HAPPEN OVER TIME
SPLASH
MAYBE THEY WERE JUST ACCIDENTS
TRUE
THE CURRENT IS GENTLE BUT THERE'S A GREAT DEAL OF SEAWEED JUST AS THE REPORT SAID
IT'S NOT IMPOSSIBLE THAT SOMEONE WOULD GET TANGLED UP IN IT AND DROWN...
YOU'RE WRONG...
SPLASH
SPLASH

THEY WEREN'T ACCIDENTS
ABOUT WHAT, SIR?
THEY'RE JUST A LEGEND! ONLY OLD FOLKS STILL BELIEVE IN THEM!
HAHAHA!
UNDINE?
THERE'S NO LEGEND! THEY'RE AS REAL AS YOU OR I!
IT WAS ALL THE UNDINE'S DOING
THAT'S WHY EVERY SINGLE ONE OF THE DROWNED MEN'S WIVES HAS DISAPPEARED!!
COULD YOU TELL US MORE?

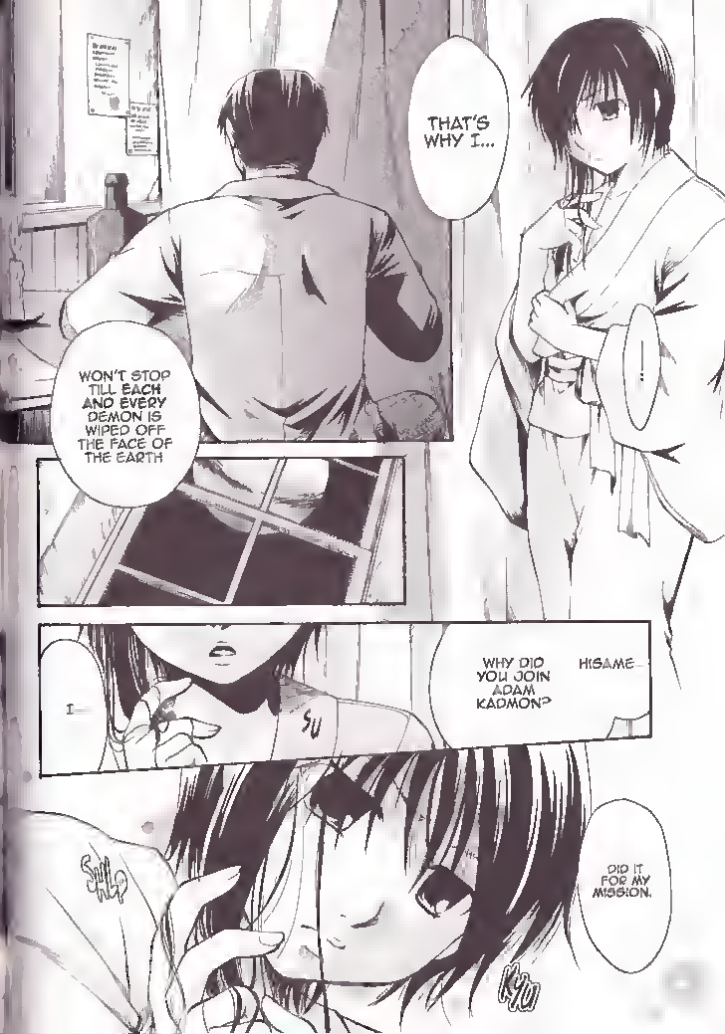
UNDINE ARE WATER SPIRITS
THEY TAKE THE FORM OF BEAUTIFUL WOMEN AND GAIN SOULS BY EARNING THE SWORN LOVE OF A MORTAL MAN
BUT IT'S NOT NECESSARILY HAPPILY-EVER-AFTER FOR THEM...
IF THE MAN SHE LOVES IS UNFAITHFUL TO HER, SHE MUST KILL HIM BEFORE SHE RETURNS TO THE WATER.
MAYBE DEMONS HAVE BECOME LOCAL FOLKLORE
HOOOOM
WE SHOULD FIND OUT MORE
SO... WATER SPIRITS... WHAT DO YA THINK?

HOOONK
SPLOOSH
WOOSH
?!
!
SWOOSH
YEAH THAT'D BE BAD
DRIP
DRIP
WHAT IF THEY DON'T LET US ON THE CARRIAGE FOR THE RIDE HOME?!
YOU THINK THIS IS FUNNY?!
SO MUCH FOR THE NICE CLOTHES!
WA HA HA HA HA!

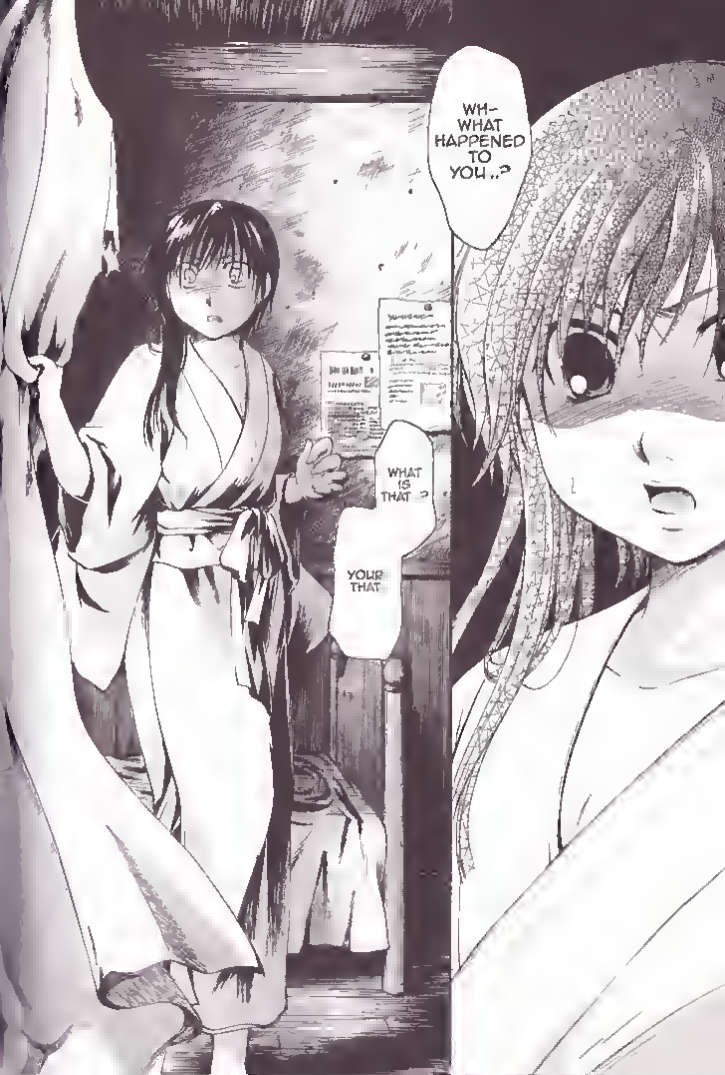
GLANCE
WHAT IS IT?
GLANCE
NO-THING..
I JUST THOUGHT I HEARD SOME-THING IN THE WATER
LHWOOH
MUST'VE JUST IMAGINED IT

WHY DON'T YOU JUST STAY HERE TONIGHT?
I DIDN'T THINK WE'D BE BACK SO LATE SORRY
CLANK
I HAVE NO INTENTION OF STAYING IN PROSTITUTE CENTRAL!
CUT THE STUPID TALK FOR ONCE!
DON'T BE SUCH A HARD ASS
THEY MIGHT HAVE TO SELL THEMSELVES TO EAT, BUT THEY'RE GOOD WOMEN WITH BIG HEARTS
I'M GOING DIRECTLY HOME AFTER I CHANGE!

BLOG
YEAH
YA KNOW, THE WOMAN WHO WAS GOING TO BE MY WIFE WAS ONE OF THEM...
BLUG
SHE HAD OUR BABY IN HER BELLY.
LOOK, YOU MIGHT BE COMFORTABLE LIVING IN A PLACE LIKE THIS...
BUT I'M...
CLINCH
TALK OF IRONY BECAUSE OF THAT THE DEMONS MADE HER A TARGET
SHE GOT POSSESSED.
I KILLED THEM BOTH WITH MY OWN HANDS.
I DELIVERED IT MYSELF
THE FINAL BLOW


THAT'S WHY I...
!
WON'T STOP TILL EACH AND EVERY DEMON IS WIPED OFF THE FACE OF THE EARTH
HISAME
WHY DID YOU JOIN ADAM KADMON?
I
SU
DID IT FOR MY MISSION.
KYU

SO YOU'RE HERE BECAUSE YOU HAVE TO BE?
IS THIS HOW YOU WANT TO SPEND THE REST OF YOUR LIFE?
CLENCH
I SEE...
YOU JUST DO WHATEVER YOU FEEL LIKE! HOW WOULD YOU--
?!
SHUT UP!!
PUSH!


WH-
WHAT
HAPPENED
TO
YOU..?
WHAT
IS
THAT..?
YOUR
THAT

I TINKERED WITH MY BODY A LITTLE
MADE A DOCTOR DO IT AGAINST HIS WILL
NOW I CAN DUKE IT OUT WITH THE DEMONS MANO-A-MANO

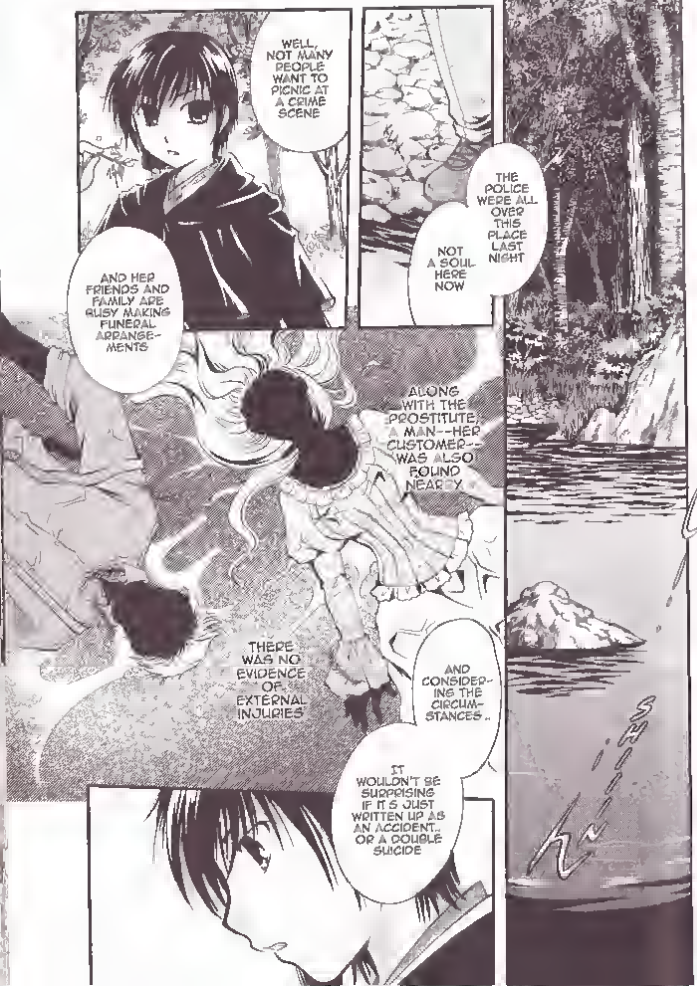
GRICK
GRICK
GRISH
WILL FADE OVER TIME.
IT'S THAT THIS ANGER THIS NEED TO KILL...
WHAT I'M SCARED OF ISN'T DEATH OR LOSS...
PLIP
!
THAT'S WHY I'M GOING TO SAY THIS NOW...
IF YOU, OR ANY OF THOSE LITTLE LADIES GET IN MY WAY...
I'LL KILL YOU.
THAT'S ALL THERE IS TO IT.

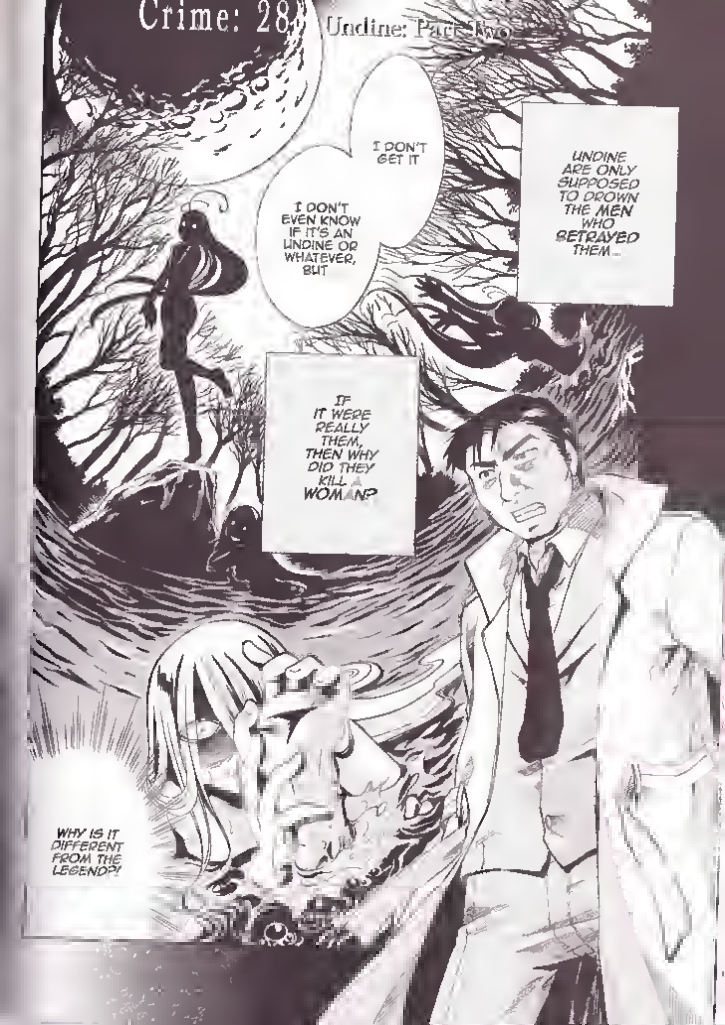
?!
!!
JEEZ..
WHAT'S WITH ALL THE RUCKUS?
HEY, WHAT'S THE MATTER?
THERE A FIGHT GOING ON?

WHAT'S
?!
WHAT IS IT?!
WHAT'RE THEY SAYING?!
HUH?
!!!
MURDER
MURDER
THE POLICE CAME AROUND
DORIS DROWNED...
AT THE SCHLIERBACH RIVERSIDE...

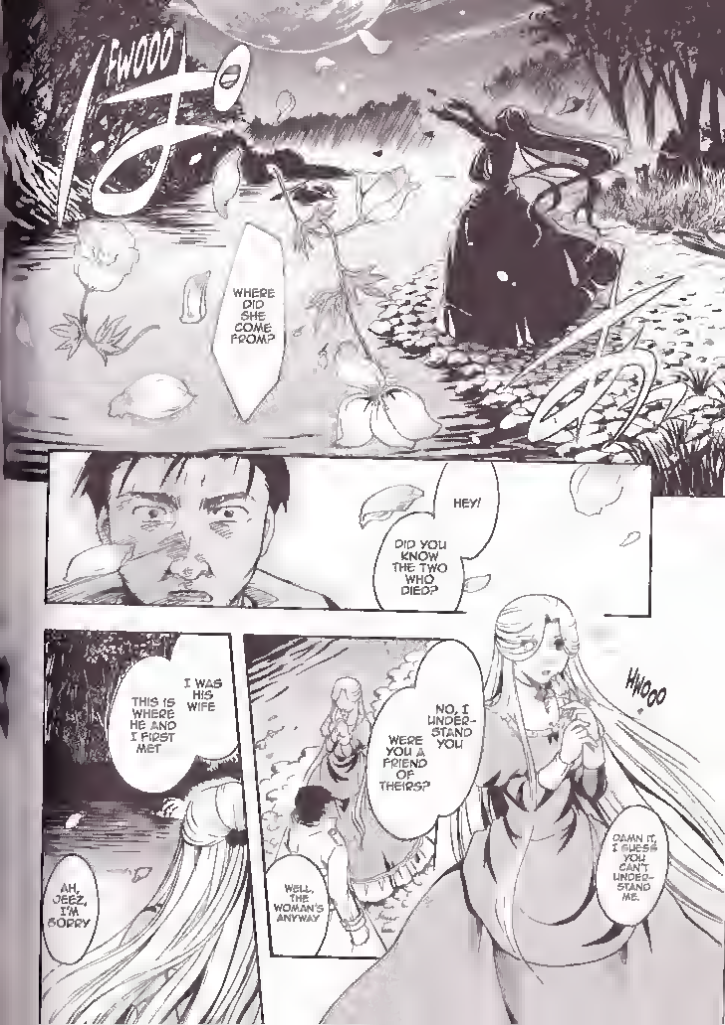
?!
WHOOSH
WHY?
RIPPLE
RIPPLE

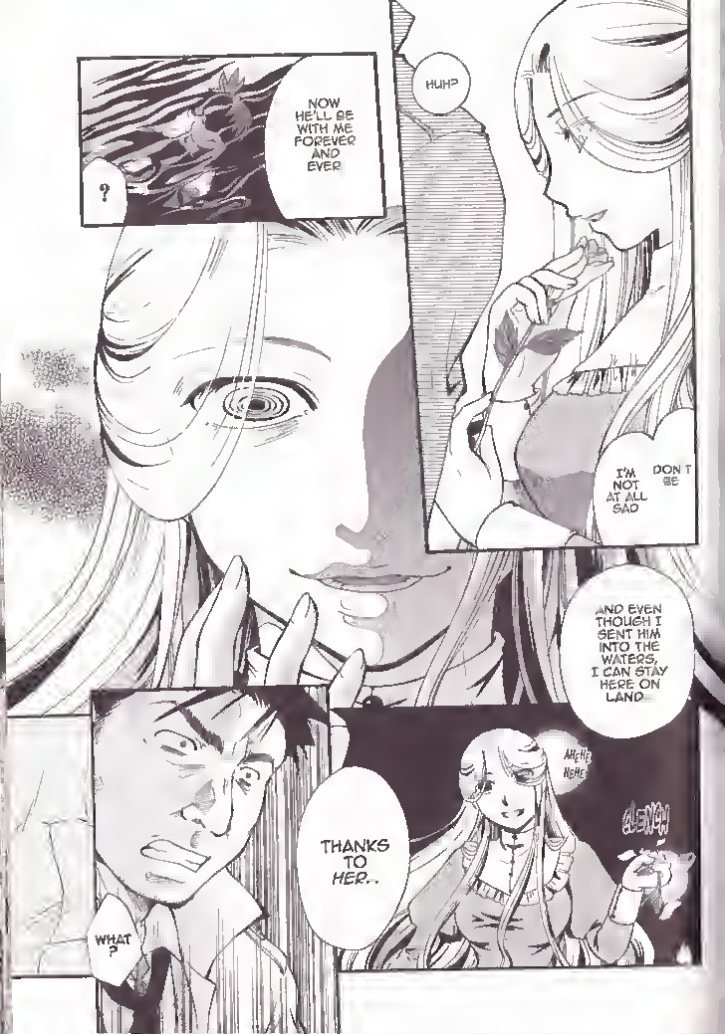
WHY WOULD AN UNDINE KILL A WOMAN...?


WELL, NOT MANY PEOPLE WANT TO PICNIC AT A CRIME SCENE
THE POLICE WERE ALL OVER THIS PLACE LAST NIGHT
NOT A SOUL HERE NOW
AND HER FRIENDS AND FAMILY ARE BUSY MAKING FUNERAL ARRANGE-MENTS
ALONG WITH THE PROSTITUTE, A MAN--HER CUSTOMER--WAS ALSO FOUND NEARBY
THERE WAS NO EVIDENCE OF EXTERNAL INJURIES
AND CONSIDER-ING THE CIRCUM-STANCES..
IT WOULDN'T BE SURPRISING IF IT'S JUST WRITTEN UP AS AN ACCIDENT.. OR A DOUBLE SUICIDE
SHIII

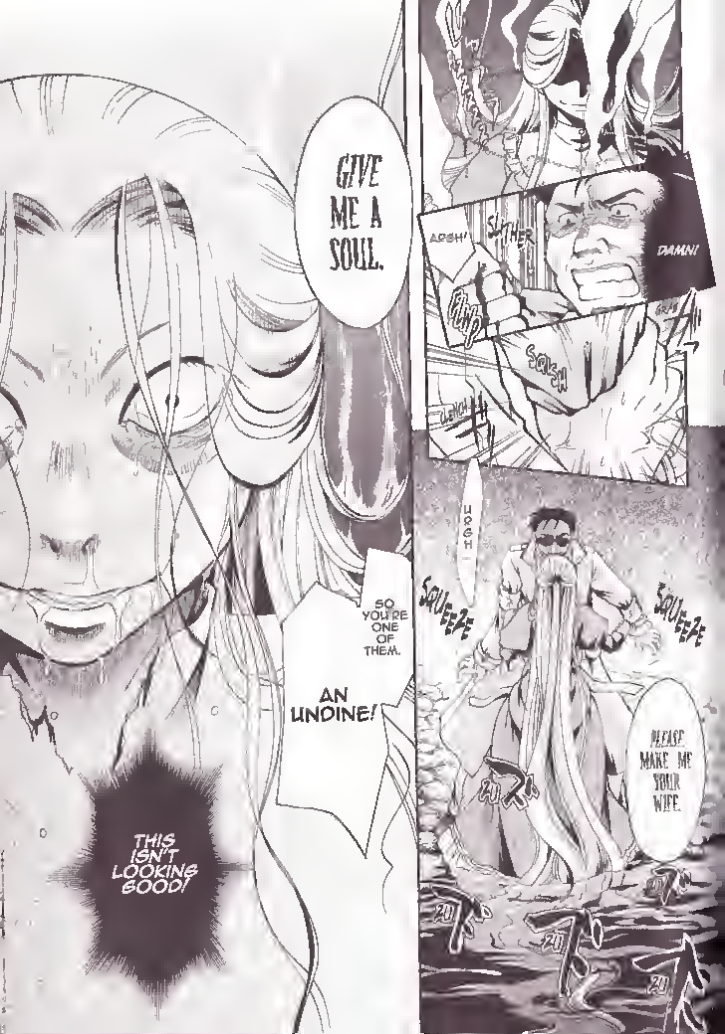

Crime: 28 Undine: Part Two
I DON'T GET IT
I DON'T EVEN KNOW IF IT'S AN UNDINE OR WHATEVER, BUT
UNDINE ARE ONLY SUPPOSED TO DROWN THE MEN WHO BETRAYED THEM...
IF IT WERE REALLY THEM, THEN WHY DID THEY KILL A WOMAN?
WHY IS IT DIFFERENT FROM THE LEGEND?!

!
SHE WOULD NEVER KILL HERSELF..
AND DEFINITELY NOT WITH A GUY!
I'M GOING TO CHECK OUT THE WOODS
I'M...
SPLISH
HMM?
A FLOWER?


FWOOO
WHERE DID SHE COME FROM?
HEY!
DID YOU KNOW THE TWO WHO DIED?
HWOOO
DAMN IT, I GUESS YOU CAN'T UNDERSTAND ME.
NO, I UNDERSTAND YOU
WERE YOU A FRIEND OF THEIRS?
WELL, THE WOMAN'S ANYWAY
I WAS HIS WIFE
THIS IS WHERE HE AND I FIRST MET
AH, JEEZ, I'M SORRY


NOW HE'LL BE WITH ME FOREVER AND EVER
?
HUH?
I'M NOT AT ALL SAD
DON'T BE
AND EVEN THOUGH I SENT HIM INTO THE WATERS, I CAN STAY HERE ON LAND
ARE?
HEHE
GLENGH
THANKS TO HER..
WHAT?

?!
MAYBE I'LL TRY YOU NEXT...
GRAB
HEAD
SHE'S SO STRONG!
MAKE ME...
"DEAD MAN'S WIFE." "THE MEN WHO WERE KILLED ARE THE ONES WHO CHEATED."
IS THIS WOMAN ...?!
MAKE ME YOUR DEVOTED WIFE.
SPLISH
SPLASH
LET GO!!
SWIP


GIVE ME A SOUL.
SO YOU'RE ONE OF THEM.
AN UNDINE!
THIS ISN'T LOOKING GOOD!
SQUEEZE
SQUEEZE
UHGH
PLEASE MAKE ME YOUR WIFE.
SLITHER
DAMN!
SQUISH
SQUISH

WHY DO I HAVE TO BE STUCK WITH HIM?
GOD, THAT MAN!
HE LETS HIS EMOTIONS RUN HIS LIFE... WHAT AN IDIOT!
WHOO WHOO
HISAME...
HMPH.
IS THIS HOW YOU WANT TO SPEND THE REST OF YOUR LIFE?
I WILL TAKE MOTHER'S PLACE.
YES, I'VE DECIDED
ONCE YOU'VE DECIDED YOU CAN NEVER BE A NORMAL GIRL AGAIN
CRACKLE
HISAME, ARE YOU SURE ABOUT THIS?
CRACKLE
CRACKLE

NO, I MUSTN'T LET MY MIND WANDER ...
BUT WHO DOES HE THINK HE IS?
CARRYING ON LIKE SOME TRAGIC HERO JUST BECAUSE ONE WOMAN DIED
RUSH
EVERY-THING I DO IS FOR MY MISSION AND MY PEOPLE.
DRAG
DRAG

SWISH
FLUTTER
SEA-WEED?!
?!
WHAT IS IT? IT'S NOT A DEMON
SPLASH
BUT IT'S NOT IN UNDINE, EITHER
SPLASH
ZAA

CLOP
CLOP
RUSTLE
I DIDN'T THINK I'D SEE A KELPIE HERE
HUFF
HUFF
BUT I GUESS THE COP'S HUNCH WAS RIGHT
HUFF
CLOP
CLOP
CLOP
WISH

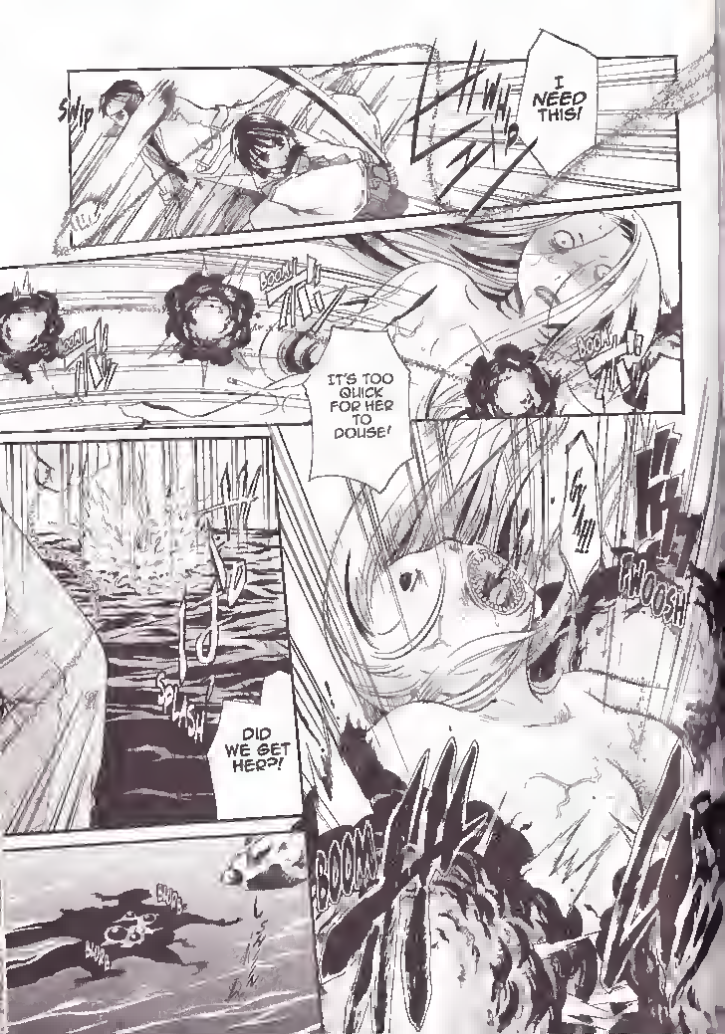
SPLOOSH
BLURB
BLURB
NNH!
BUBBLE
BUBBLE
BLURB
BLURB
GLOP
GLOP
GLOP
WHAT'S THAT SOUND? IT'S GETTING CLOSER...
21
SWOOSH

SPLOOSH!
A KELPIE ?!
FWIP
FWIP
WHIP
CLOP
WHAT'S IT DOING IN GERMANY ?!
SLASH!
?!

SPLISH
HISAME?!
SLASH
SLASH
YEAH, EVERYTHING'S ALL SCREWED UP.
THERE'S AN UNDINE HERE AS WELL?!
DRIP
DRIP

TWITCH
WE FIND A KELPIE HERE, EVEN THOUGH IT'S CELTIC...
AND THIS IS GERMANY...
AND OUR UNDINE NOT ONLY KILLS A WOMAN...
BUT TRIES TO PULL IN A MAN SHE'S NOT EVEN MARRIED TO.
YOU STINK OF MISFORTUNE.
ALL GO MAD. MAD. MAD...
EVERYTHING'S GONE CRAZY!
I GOT THIS ONE
HUFF HUFF
CRACK
CRACK
IT DOESN'T MATTER NOW!
ONCE SHE'S ON LAND I'LL TAKE CARE OF HER!
LOOK AT YOURSELF YOU'RE SOAKED!
JUST STAY OUT OF IT
WHA...?
ALL YOU GOTTA DO IS DRY IT OUT.
WHERE'D ALL THIS HEAT COMING FROM?
THE DOC KNEW WHAT HI WAS DOING
HUFF
HUFF
HUFF

ROAAARRRGH!!
SIZZZZ
HE EVAPORATED ALL THE WATER?!
I TOLD YA..
FOR HEAVEN'S SAKE!!
DO YOU ENJOY BEING A RECKLESS IDIOT?!
GAH!!
WHOOSH
HOW IS THIS POSSIBLE?
SKIN AND NERVES CAN'T HANDLE IT!
NO HUMAN CAN ENDURE THAT!!
THAT'S BETTER.
CHUCK CHUCK


SWIP
I NEED THIS!
BOOM!
BOOM!
IT'S TOO QUICK FOR HER TO DOUSE!
FWOOSH
SPLASH
DID WE GET HER?!
BOOM
BOOM

SHE'LL...
REGEN-
ERATE!!
RRRR
AAARRR
BLARP
BLARP
BURBBLE
BURBBLE
BURBBLE
BURBBLE
!!
WAIT! IF A WATER CREATURE GOES BACK IN THE WATER
!!
SPLASH!

?!
GROOSH
GET BACK!
IF WE GET SUCKED INTO THAT THING--!
SHIIIIH!
GWAP

DAMN!
BAM
WATER IS ITS DOMAIN
AS LONG AS IT'S IN THE RIVER WE CAN'T DO A THING!
IF WE COULD GET HER OUT OF THE WATER, EVEN FOR A SECOND...
AH!
OH NO!
GASP
!!
WELL...
JUST A SECOND, HUH?

SPRISH
?!
BAM
SPLASH
JUST MAKE SURE YOU MAKE THE MOST OF IT!
A SECOND YOU BOT IT
SO
SIZZZZ
BOOMMMM
BECAUSE I'M GOING TO HAVE TO GO ALL OUT!
EDWARD!
TOG
SPLASH

SNAP
SNAP
SNAP
SNAP
SNAP
SNAP
SNAP
SNAP
AWAKEN, AGLA CORE!!
SNAP
SNAP
SNAP
SNAP
SNAP
SNAP
SNAP

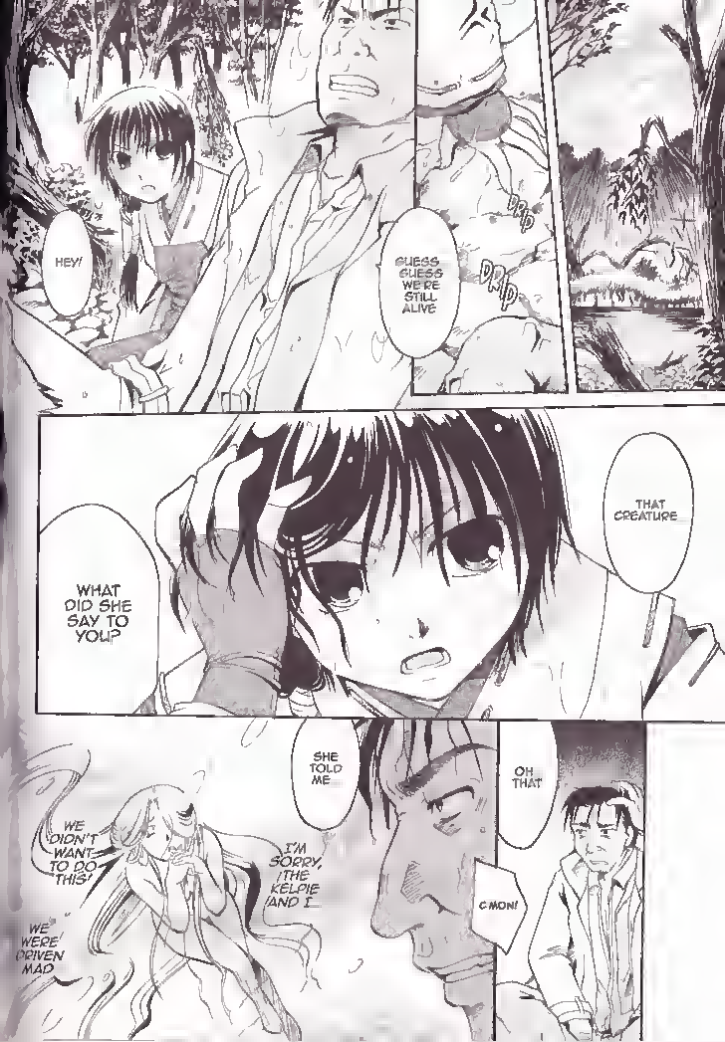
A STONE WHICH HAS THE CAPABILITY TO DESTROY DEMONS A SOURCE OF MAGICAL POWER THAT REGENERATES AND REPLENISHES ITSELF ENDLESSLY
SO THAT'S THE AGLA CORE
BUT THE HUMAN BODY ISN'T STRONG ENOUGH TO HOLD IT
THE "AGLA CORE" THE SOUL OF THE WEAPON ANGELA WAS USING BEFORE SHE GOT HER ANATHEMA
FRWO
YOU'LL FIND AN IDIOT... WHO'LL DO ANYTHING FOR HIS WOMAN!!
BAM
ZA
GUSH

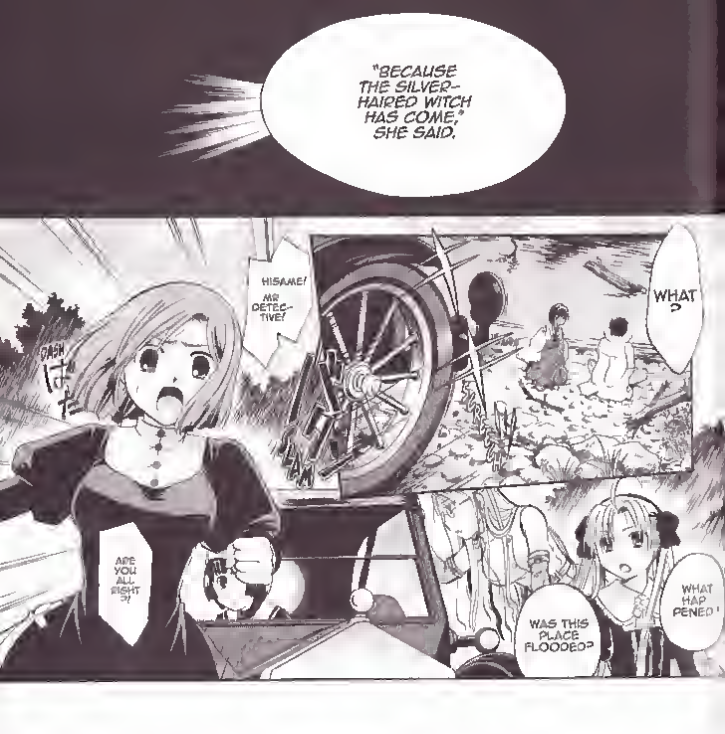
NOW!!!
GRAB
SLASH

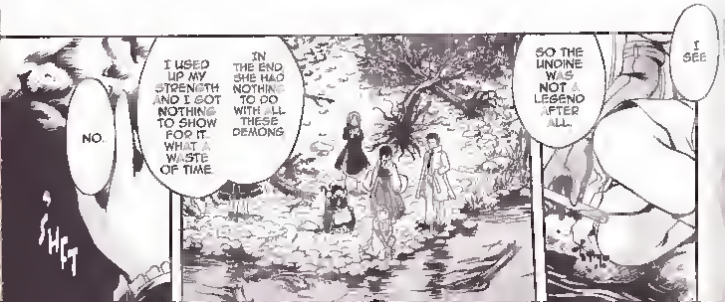
CRUCK
CRACK
CRACK
!!
BLEEB
GULP
AAGHH
RAAAAAR
WE'RE GOING TO DIE HERE TOO.
THE LAST GACH

SHIIIN
WOOSH
?!
BLURG
I'VE GOT NOTHING LEFT...
BLURG
BLURG
BLURG

?!
WHAT? WHAT'DA MEAN?!
YOU ...?!
BUT WHY ?!


HEY!
GUESS GUESS WE'RE STILL ALIVE
DRIP
DRIP
THAT CREATURE
WHAT DID SHE SAY TO YOU?
SHE TOLD ME...
OH THAT
C'MON!
I'M SORRY, THE KELPIE AND I
WE DIDN'T WANT TO DO THIS!
WE WERE DRIVEN MAD


"BECAUSE THE SILVER-HAIRED WITCH HAS COME," SHE SAID.
HISAME! MR DETEC-TIVE!
DASH はた
ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?!
WHAT?
WHAT HAP-PENED!
WAS THIS PLACE FLOODED?

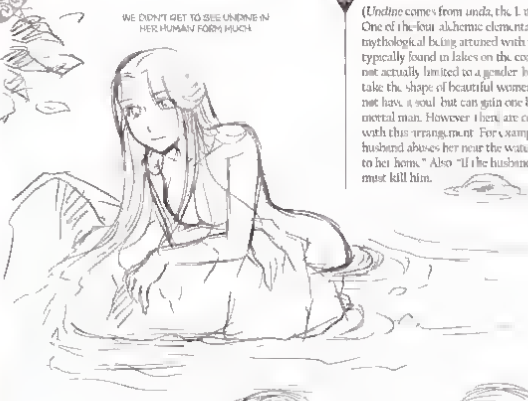

I SEE.
SO THE UNDINE WAS NOT A LEGEND AFTER ALL.
IN THE END SHE HAD NOTHING TO DO WITH ALL THESE DEMONS.
I USED UP MY STRENGTH AND I GOT NOTHING TO SHOW FOR IT. WHAT A WASTE OF TIME.
NO.
SHIFT

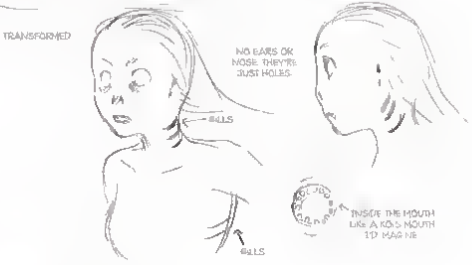
IN THE END...
EDWARD
ANN, WHAT IS IT?
NOT A WASTE AT ALL.
WE'RE ONE STEP CLOSER TO SOLVING THIS LAND'S [illegible] MYSTERIES
IT WAS A KEY BATTLE

I'M SORRY, BOSS!!
POP IS THE NEWBIE IN THE ORGANIZATION!

UNDINE

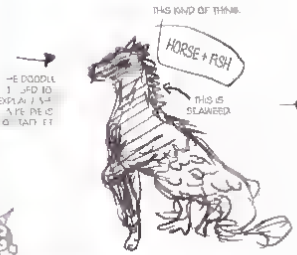
(*Undine* comes from *unda*, the Latin for wave.)
One of the four alchemic elementals, an Undine is a mythological being attuned with water. They are typically found in lakes or the coasts. They are also not actually limited to a gender but they most often take the shape of beautiful women. An Undine does not have a soul but can gain one by marrying a mortal man. However there are certain limitations with this arrangement. For example, they say, "If her husband abuses her near the water she will return to her home." Also "If the husband is unfaithful, she must kill him.



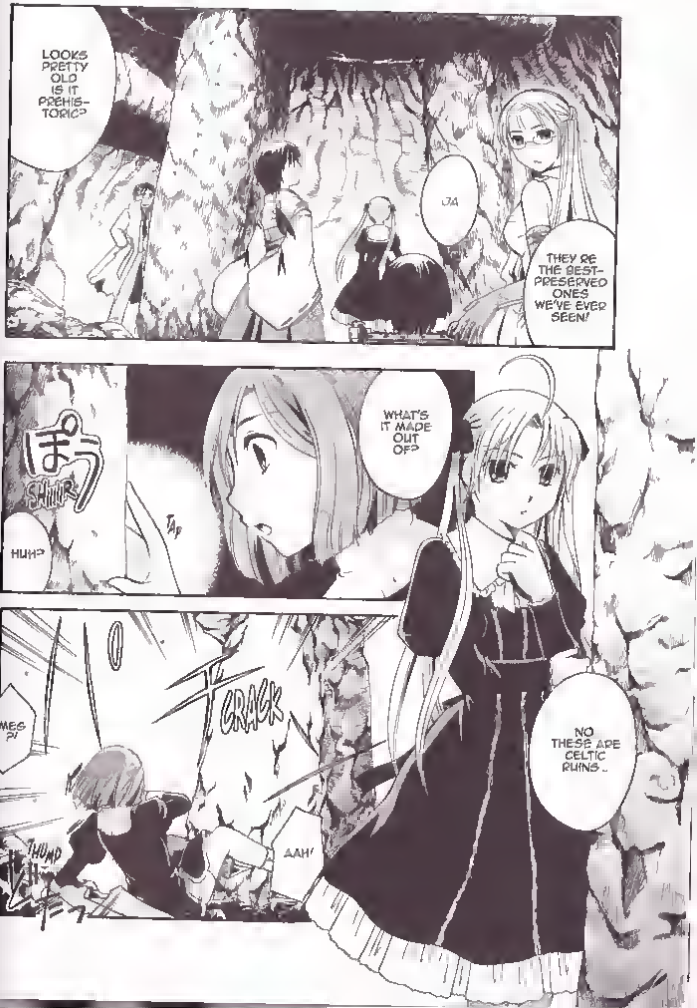


KELPIE

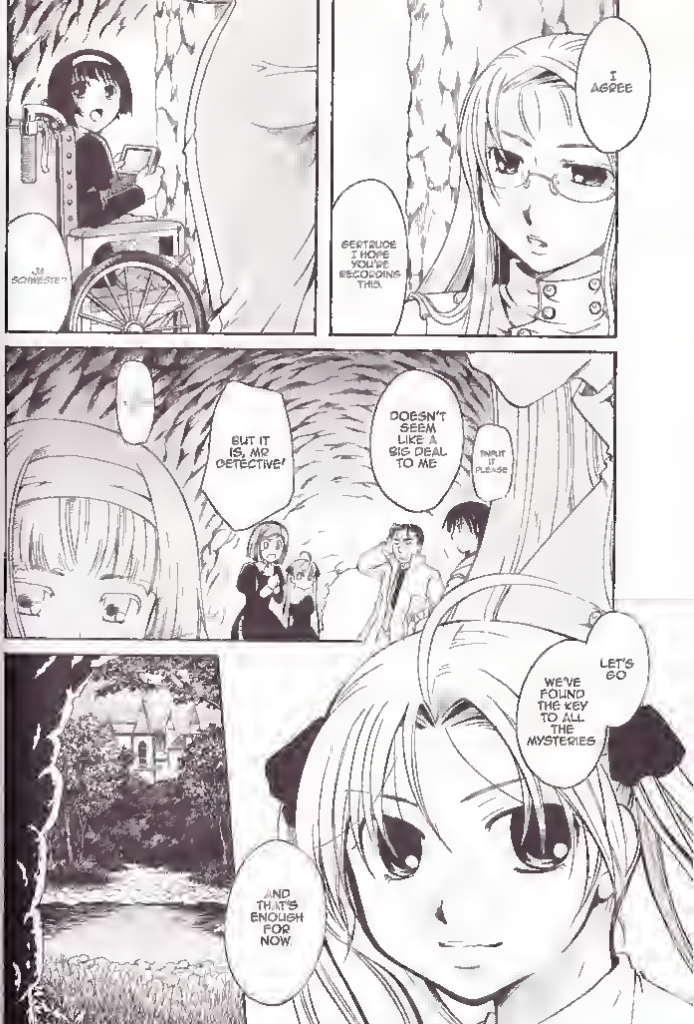
A mythical beast said to inhabit the rivers and lochs of Scotland. A kelpie is like a horse but has a fish tail and is seaweed mane. It is timid but short tempered much like a young colt being broken in. A tiresome creature, a kelpie will dive into the depths of the river should an unknowing human happen to mount him. However if you tame it with skill, it's said to be better than any horse.

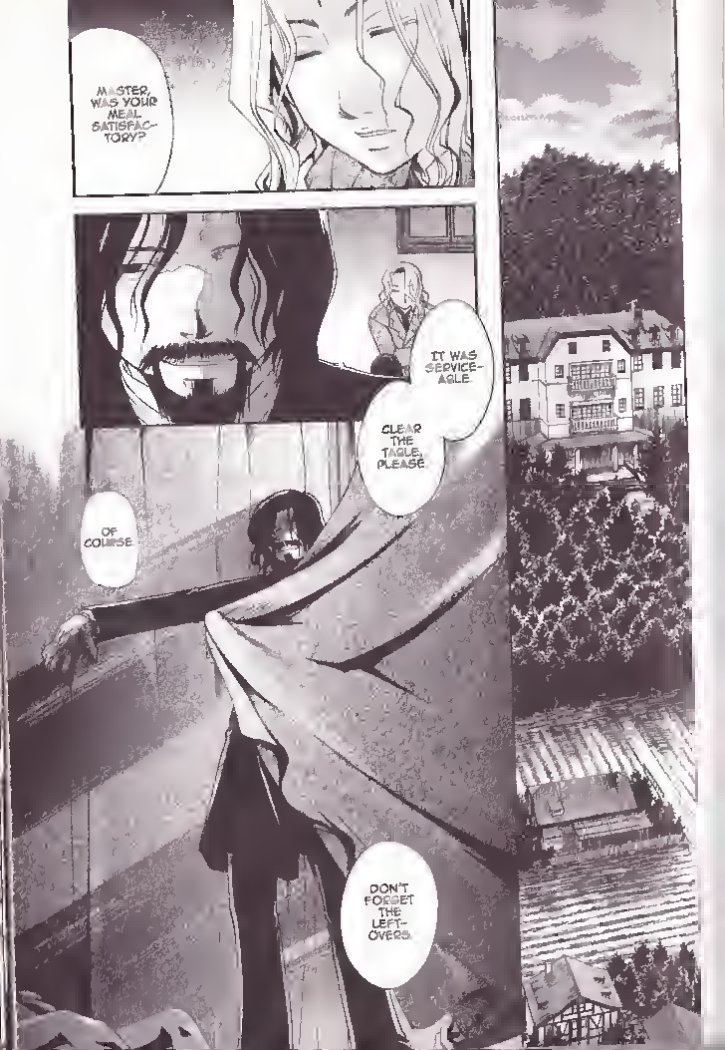


Crime: 29 Magus's Seal

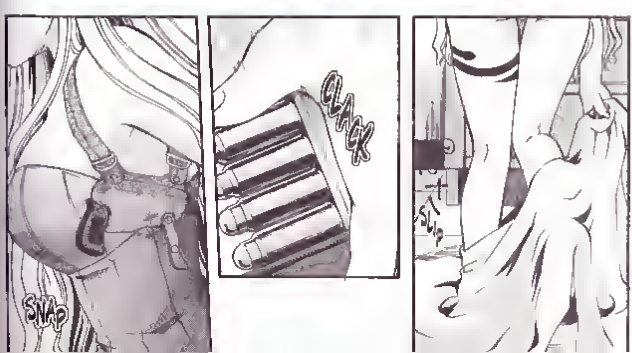

LOOKS PRETTY OLD IS IT PREHISTORIC?
UM
THEY'RE THE BEST-PRESERVED ONES WE'VE EVER SEEN!
WHAT'S IT MADE OUT OF?
ぽう
SHINE
TAP
HUH?
NO THESE ARE CELTIC RUINS..
CRACK
MEG?!
AAH!
THUMP

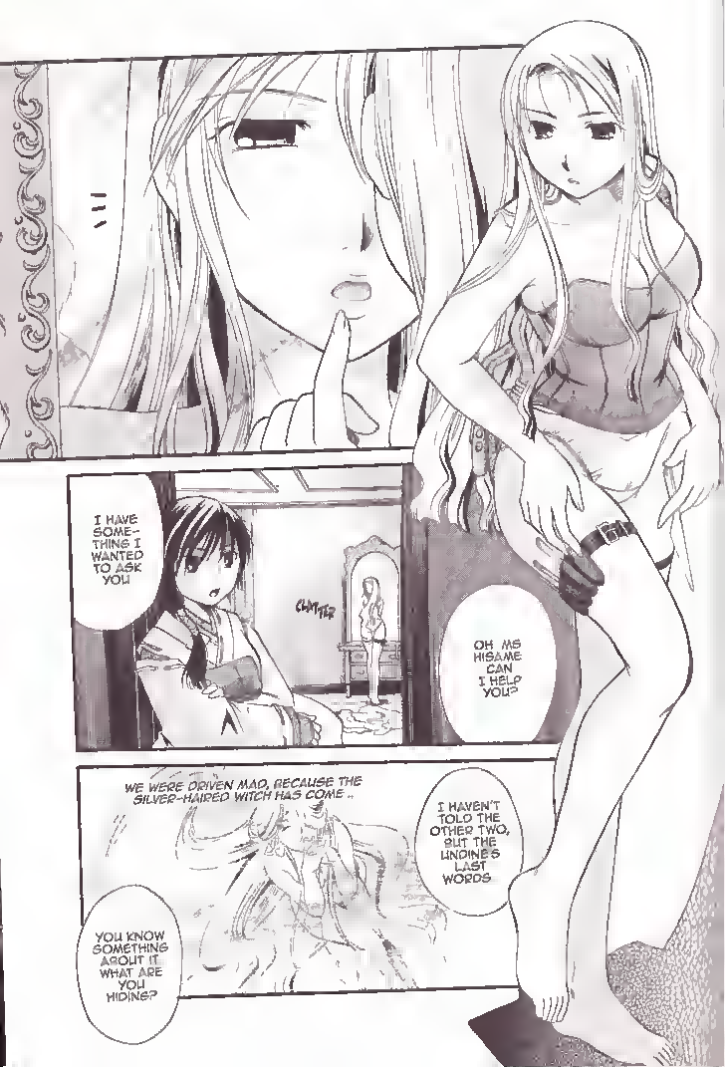
SORRY, I DIDN'T MEAN TO-
IT'S ALL RIGHT
IT WAS PROBABLY JUST REACTING TO YOUR POWERS
MOST LIKELY IT WAS A BARRIER THAT ONCE PROTECTED THIS LAND.
SO COMING HERE WAS A WASTE OF TIME
BUT IT'S NOT UP NOW, IS IT?
CRUNCH
CERTAINLY NOT IF SOMEONE TOOK THE TROUBLE TO CONSTRUCT SUCH A LARGE BARRICADE...
THAT MEANS THIS CITY HOLDS SOMETHING PRECIOUS, SOMETHING THEY WENT TO GREAT LENGTHS TO PROTECT

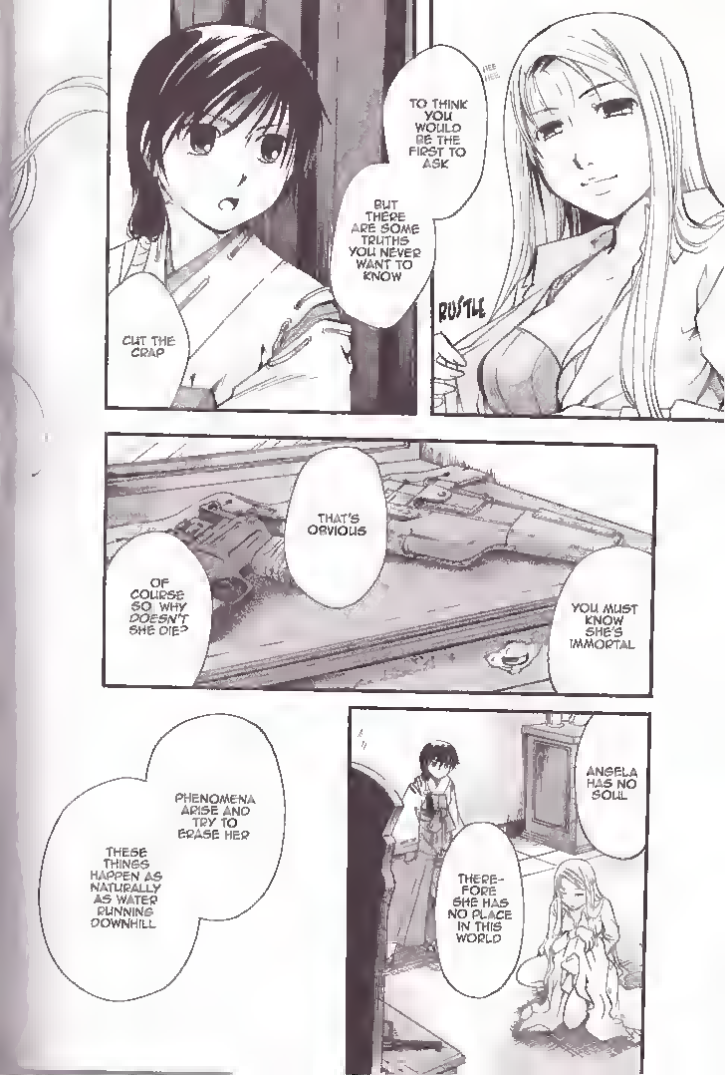

I AGREE
GERTRUDE I HOPE YOU'VE RECORDING THIS.
MISS SCHWESTER?
DOESN'T SEEM LIKE A BIG DEAL TO ME
INPUT IT PLEASE
BUT IT IS, MR DETECTIVE!
LET'S GO
WE'VE FOUND THE KEY TO ALL THE MYSTERIES
AND THAT'S ENOUGH FOR NOW.


MASTER, WAS YOUR MEAL SATISFAC-TORY?
IT WAS SERVICE-ABLE.
CLEAR THE TABLE, PLEASE.
OF COURSE.
DON'T FORGET THE LEFT-OVERS.

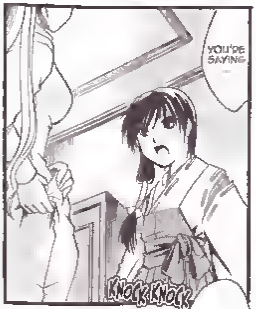
GNAW GNAW
IT SEEMS THEY'RE DOING THE WORK FOR US
GNOW
HOW LUCKY FOR US.
OR MAYBE IT'S A FAVOR GRANTED BY GOD...

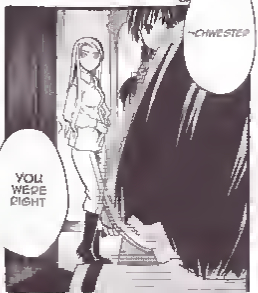

CLACK
SNAP
SNAP

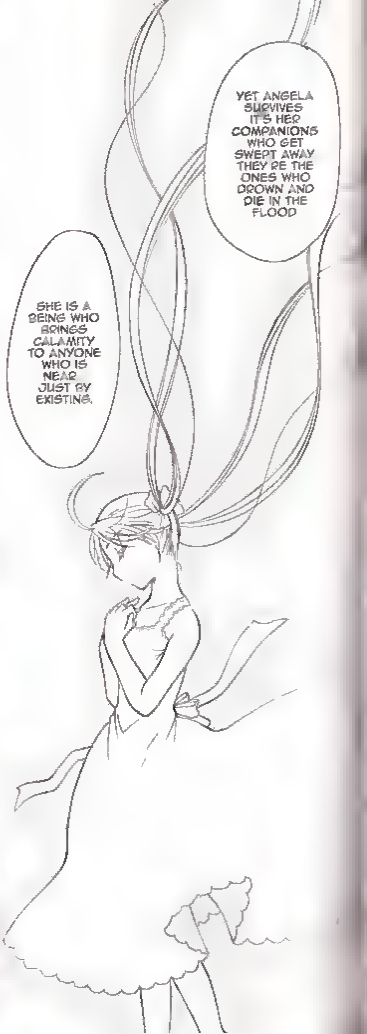

I HAVE SOME-THING I WANTED TO ASK YOU
CLATTER
OH MS HISAME CAN I HELP YOU?
WE WERE DRIVEN MAD, BECAUSE THE SILVER-HAIRED WITCH HAS COME..
I HAVEN'T TOLD THE OTHER TWO, BUT THE UNDINE'S LAST WORDS
YOU KNOW SOMETHING ABOUT IT. WHAT ARE YOU HIDING?


CUT THE CRAP
BUT THERE ARE SOME TRUTHS YOU NEVER WANT TO KNOW
TO THINK YOU WOULD BE THE FIRST TO ASK
HEE HEE
RUSTLE
OF COURSE SO. WHY DOESN'T SHE DIE?
THAT'S OBVIOUS
YOU MUST KNOW SHE'S IMMORTAL
THESE THINGS HAPPEN AS NATURALLY AS WATER RUNNING DOWNHILL
PHENOMENA ARISE AND TRY TO ERASE HER
THERE-FORE SHE HAS NO PLACE IN THIS WORLD
ANGELA HAS NO SOUL

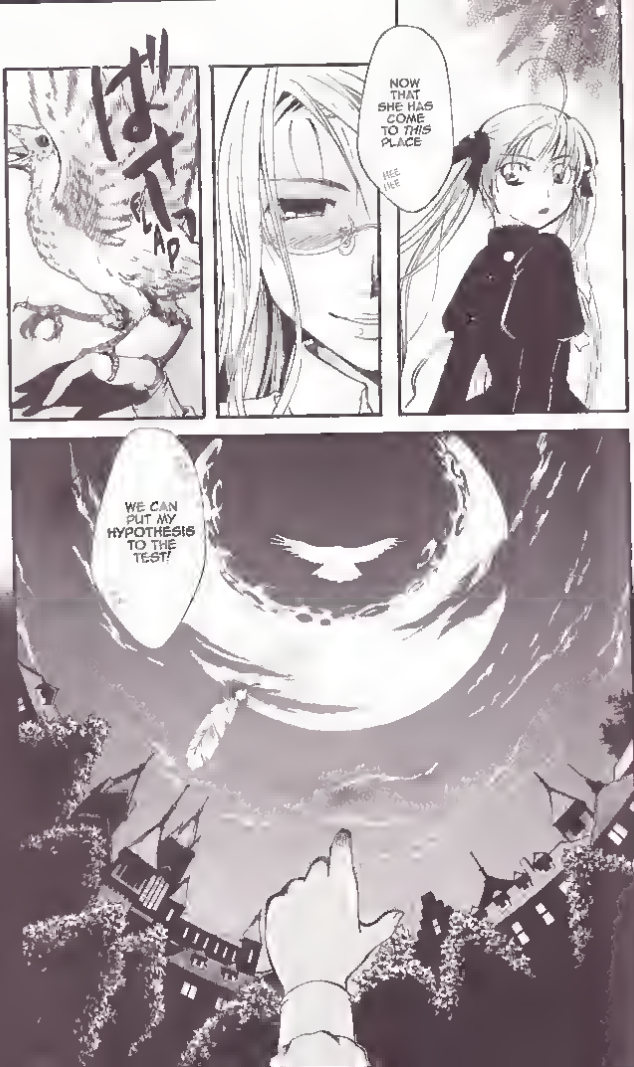
SHLP
YOU'VE BEEN TRAVELING WITH HER. YOU'VE SEEN WHAT I MEAN, CORRECT?

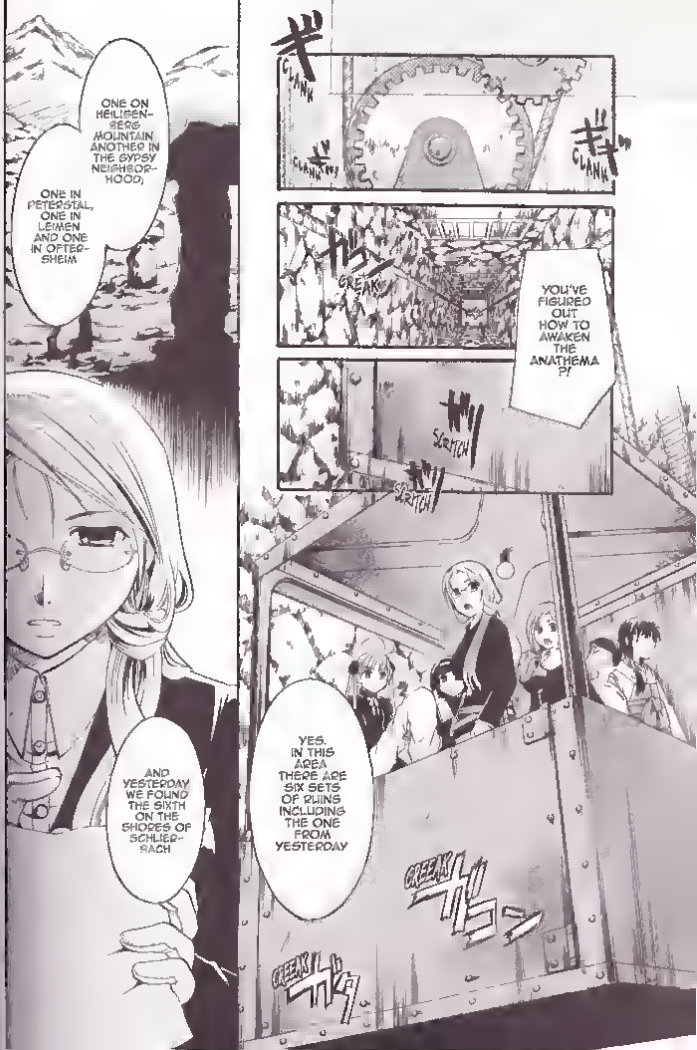

YOU'RE SAYING...
KNOCK KNOCK

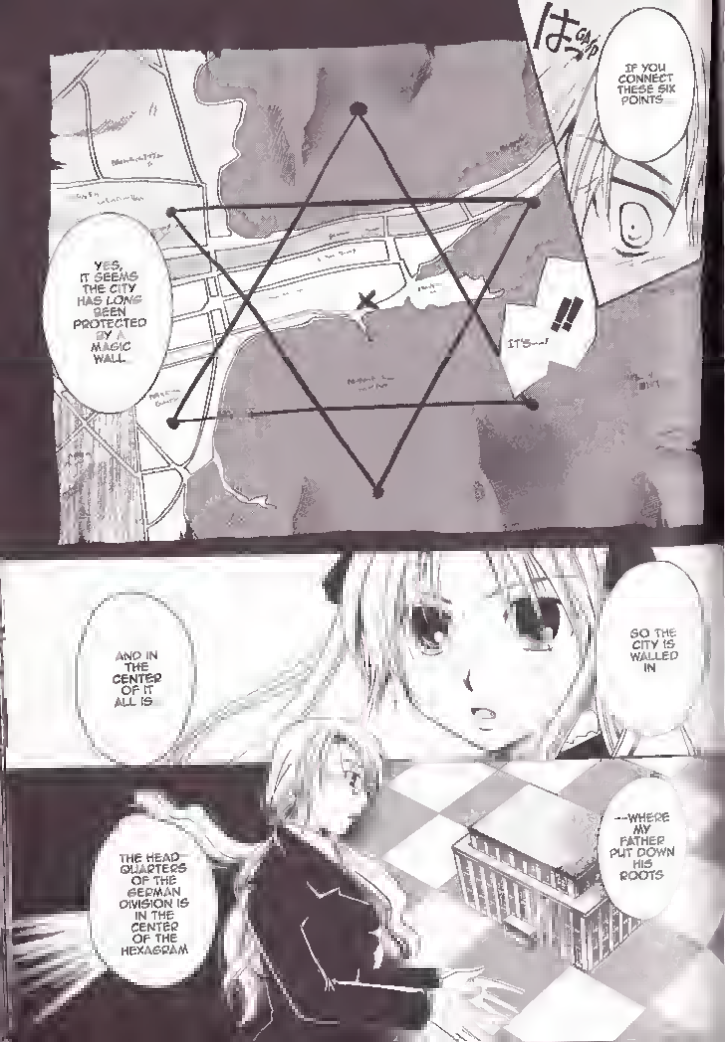

-CHWESTED
YOU WERE RIGHT


YET ANGELA SURVIVES IT'S HER COMPANIONS WHO GET SWEPT AWAY THEY'RE THE ONES WHO DROWN AND DIE IN THE FLOOD
SHE IS A BEING WHO BRINGS CALAMITY TO ANYONE WHO IS NEAR JUST BY EXISTING.

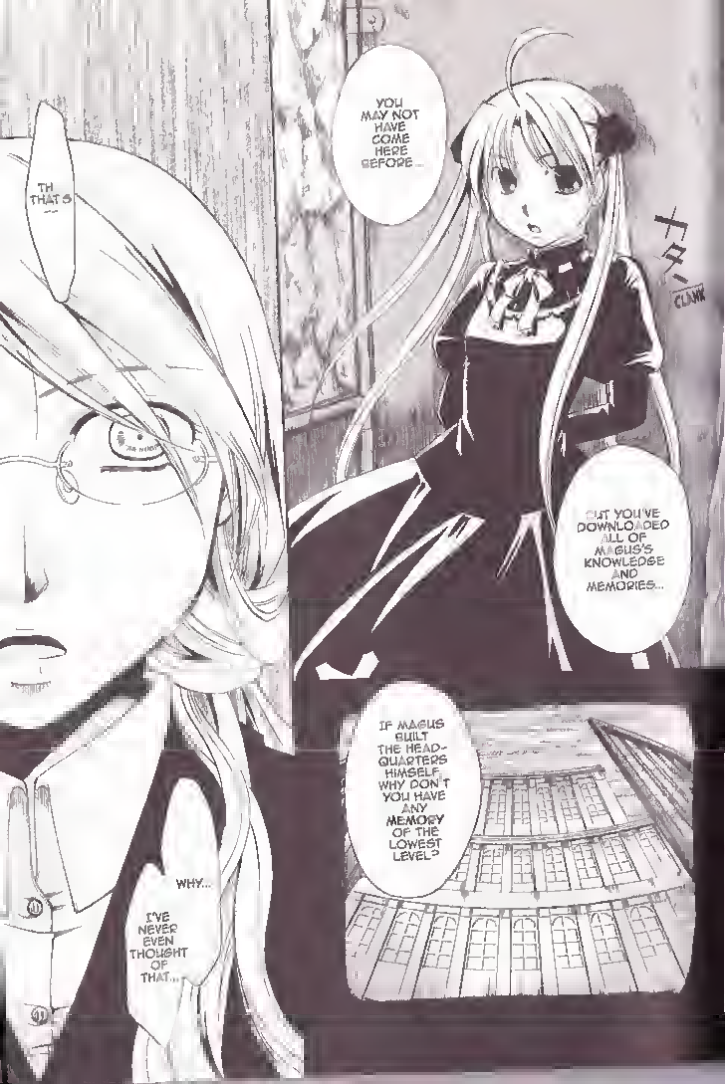
ALL RIGHT, THANK YOU
KNOCK
WE SHOULD TELL EVERY-ONE
THE SITE OF THE MONUMENT -- YOUR HYPOTHESIS WAS CORRECT!
JA
CHIRP
PLEASE SEND A MESSENGER TO THE DETECTIVE BITTE
FLAP FLAP
CHATTER
DOES IT REALLY MATTER
WHETHER SHE'S A WITCH OR A GODDESS?
HEY!! WE'RE NOT DONE--
CREAK

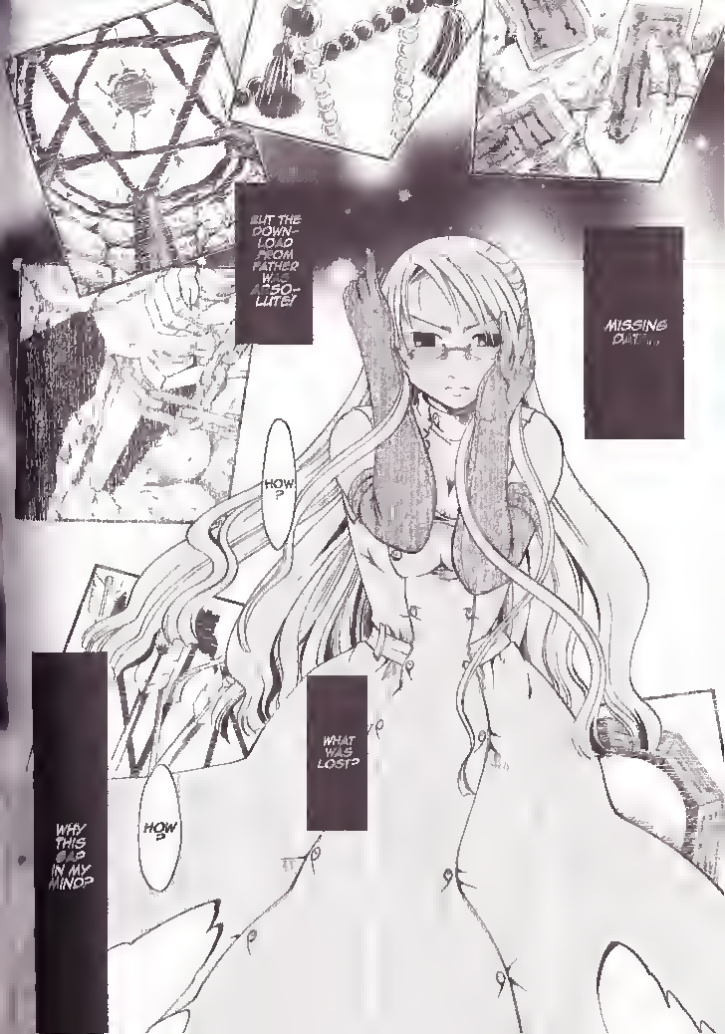

NOW THAT SHE HAS COME TO THIS PLACE
HEE HEE
WE CAN PUT MY HYPOTHESIS TO THE TEST!


ONE ON HEILIGENBERG MOUNTAIN, ANOTHER IN THE GYPSY NEIGHBORHOOD,
ONE IN PETERSTAL, ONE IN LEIMEN AND ONE IN OFTERSHEIM
AND YESTERDAY WE FOUND THE SIXTH ON THE SHORES OF SCHLIERBACH
CLANK
CLANK
CLANK
CREAK
YOU'VE FIGURED OUT HOW TO AWAKEN THE ANATHEMA?
SCRITCH
SCRITCH
YES. IN THIS AREA THERE ARE SIX SETS OF RUINS INCLUDING THE ONE FROM YESTERDAY
CREEAK
CREEAK

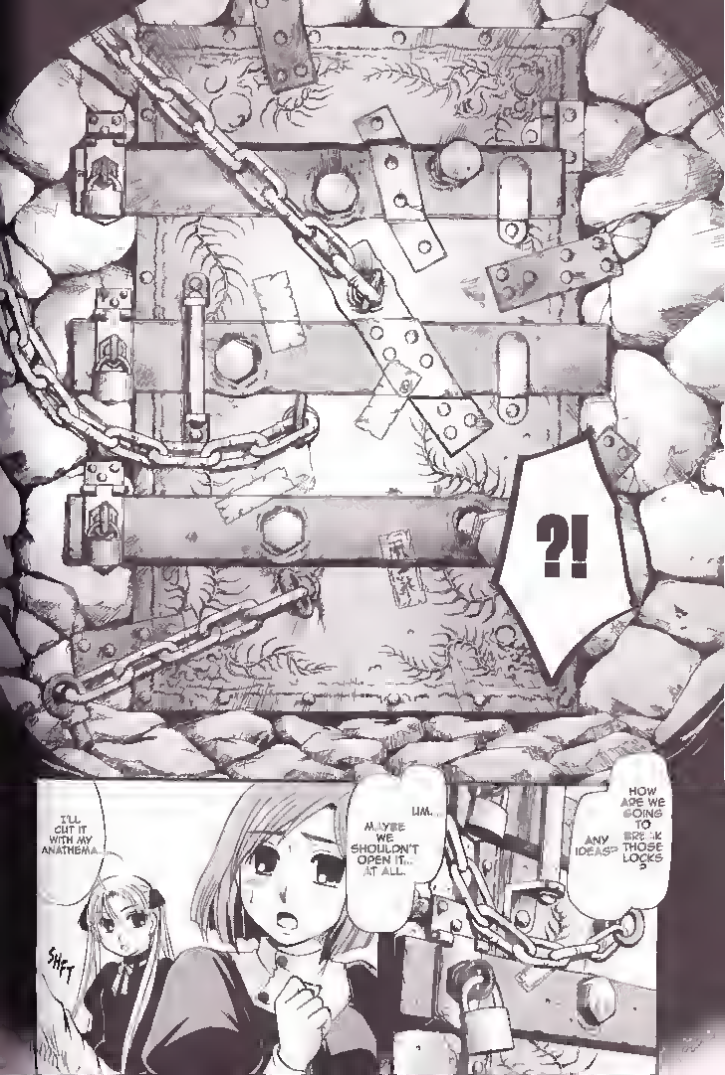

IF YOU CONNECT THESE SIX POINTS...
!!
IT'S—!
YES, IT SEEMS THE CITY HAS LONG BEEN PROTECTED BY A MAGIC WALL.
SO THE CITY IS WALLED IN
AND IN THE CENTER OF IT ALL IS...
--WHERE MY FATHER PUT DOWN HIS ROOTS
THE HEAD-QUARTERS OF THE GERMAN DIVISION IS IN THE CENTER OF THE HEXAGRAM

HERE?
I UNDERSTAND THAT THIS IS THE CENTER OF IT ALL.
BUT WHY ARE WE GOING DOWN SO DEEP?
SHOULDN'T WE SEARCH THE OTHER FLOORS FIRST?
I DON'T KNOW WHY, BUT I'VE NEVER BEEN DOWN TO THE LOWEST LEVEL, FOR SOME REASON. SO CALL IT A HUNCH
YOU SEE, MY FATHER AND I SEARCHED THIS PLACE EXTENSIVELY BACK WHEN HE WAS STILL ALIVE. JUST NEVER THERE.
CLANK
CLANK
CLANK
CLANK
THAT'S STRANGE
SO IT MUST BE ON THE BOTTOM FLOOR WHERE NEITHER OF US HAS EVER GONE


YOU MAY NOT HAVE COME HERE BEFORE...
CLANK
BUT YOU'VE DOWNLOADED ALL OF MAGUS'S KNOWLEDGE AND MEMORIES...
IF MAGUS BUILT THE HEAD-QUARTERS HIMSELF, WHY DON'T YOU HAVE ANY MEMORY OF THE LOWEST LEVEL?
TH- THAT'S --
WHY...
I'VE NEVER EVEN THOUGHT OF THAT...


BUT THE DOWN-LOAD FROM FATHER WAS ABSO-LUTE!
MISSING DATA...
HOW?
WHAT WAS LOST?
HOW?
WHY THIS OLD IN MY MIND?

SO WE HAVE NO IDEA WHAT AWAITS US.
MAGUS MUST HAVE ERASED IT FROM HIS MEMORY BEFOREHAND!
UNLESS...
BA-THUMP
BA-THUMP
BLAM
?!
TIME TO FILL IN THE GAPS
TURN ON A LIGHT!!
RIGHT!
SCHW-HIEW WE'LL BE HERE
SMACK


?!
HOW ARE WE GOING TO BREAK THOSE LOCKS?
ANY IDEAS?
UM...
MAYBE WE SHOULDN'T OPEN IT... AT ALL.
I'LL CUT IT WITH MY ANATHEMA.
SHFT

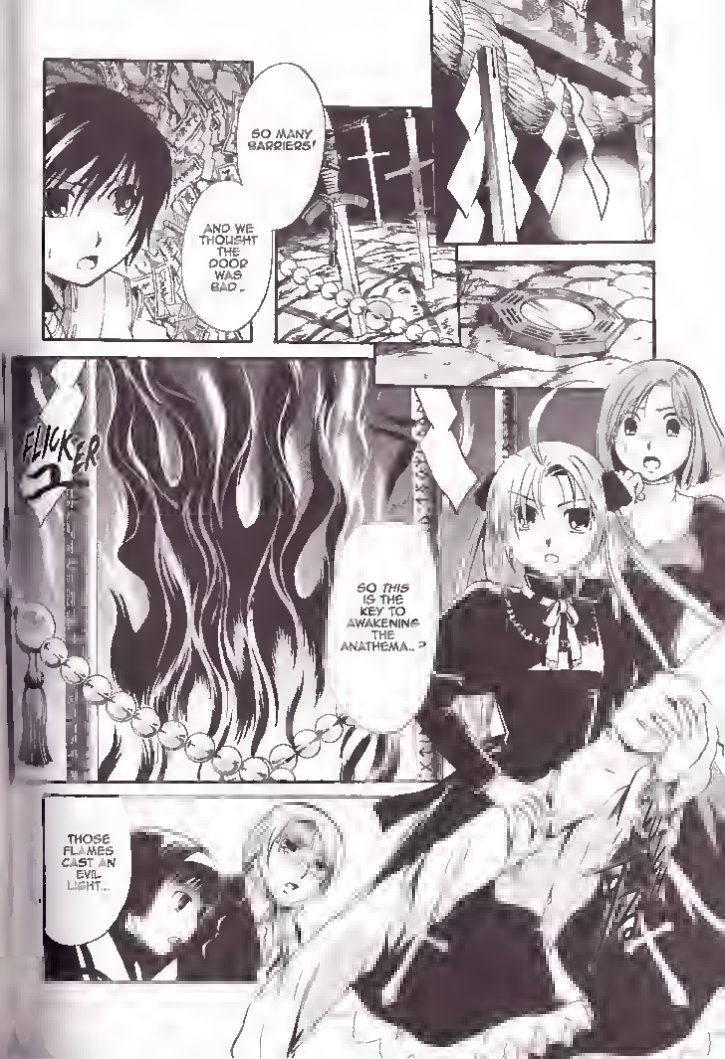
ANN, NO!!
WHAT IF IT REACTS BADLY AGAINST WHATEVER'S IN THERE?
MEG'S RIGHT
GERTRUDE, CAN YOU DO IT?
JA
STAND BACK PITTE
GA!
GA!
GA!
GA!

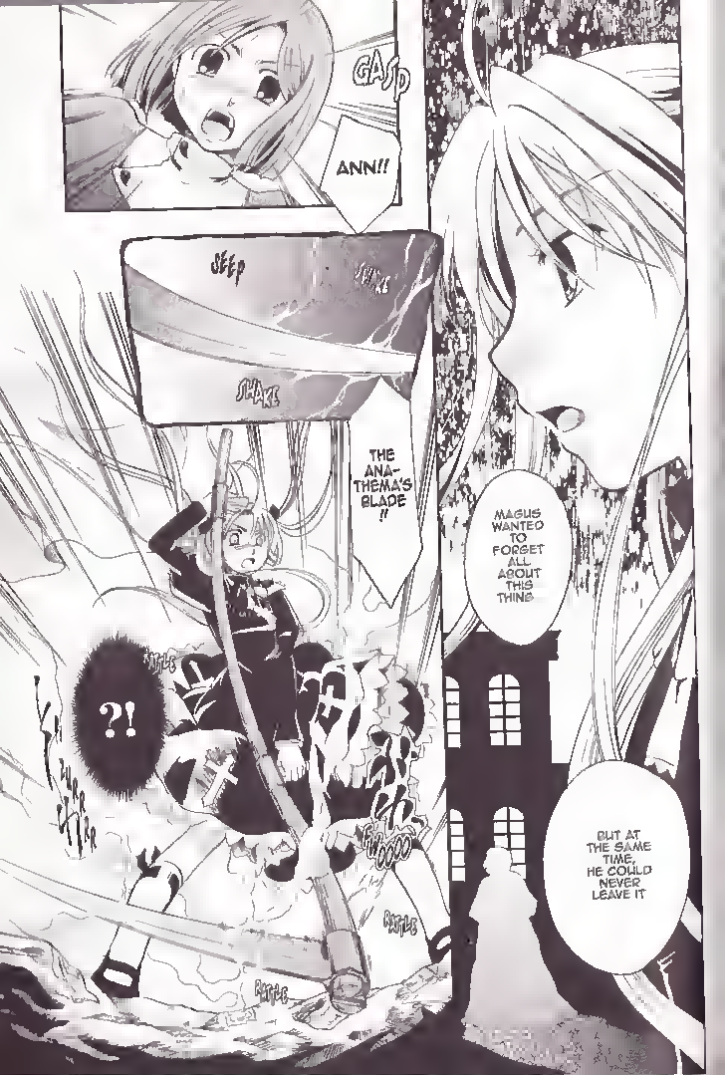
SNAP
RGH
CRACK
KRRRR
BRAK
RGH
GLITTER
I'M STEP THE WAY O CLEAR!
TAP!

SU
OH...
SO CLOSE...
NOT MUCH LONGER NOW
CLICK
CHAMLIP
WHOOSH
WHAT IS THIS?!

THIS IS WHAT HAS BEEN HIDDEN AWAY FOR SO LONG
OOAA
AAAR
SO THIS..

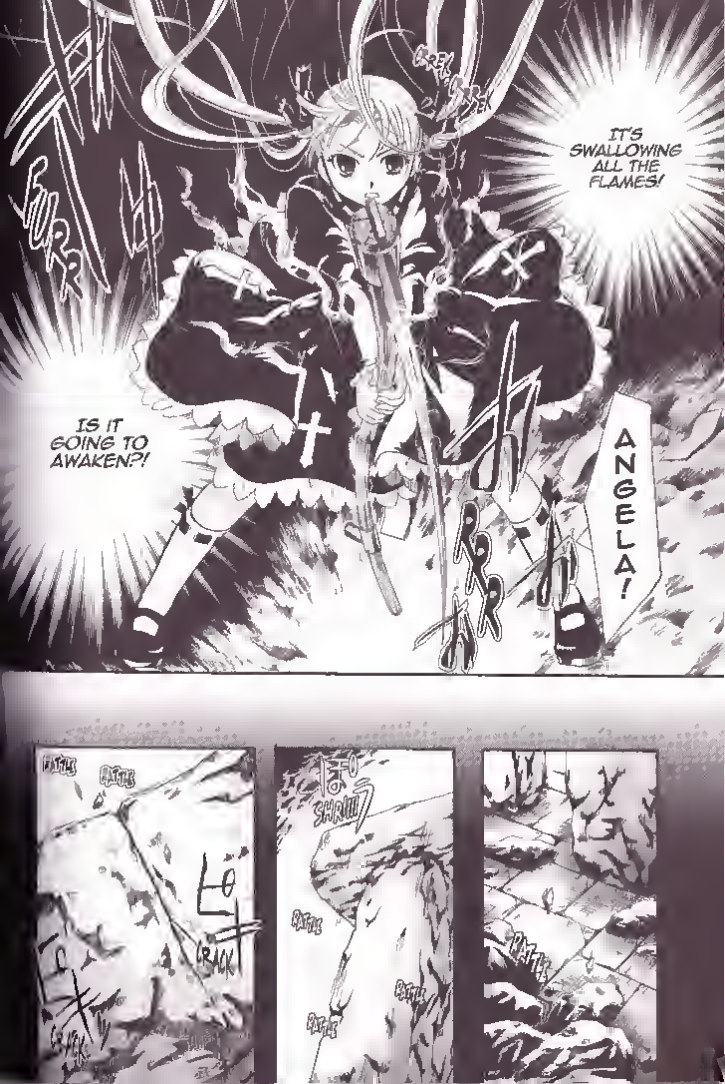
RRR
OOO


SO MANY BARRIERS!
AND WE THOUGHT THE DOOR WAS BAD..
FLICKER 2
SO THIS IS THE KEY TO AWAKENING THE ANATHEMA..?
THOSE FLAMES CAST AN EVIL LIGHT..

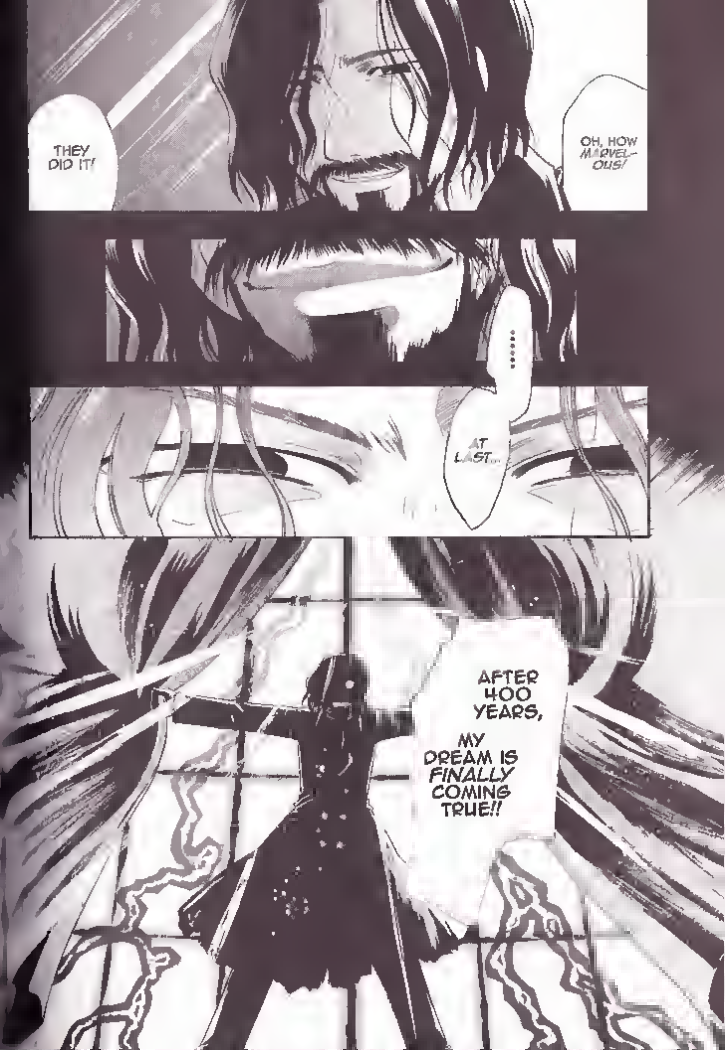

GASP
ANN!!
SLEEP
SLASH
SHACK
THE ANA-THEMA'S BLADE !!
?!
BUT AT THE SAME TIME, HE COULD NEVER LEAVE IT
MAGUS WANTED TO FORGET ALL ABOUT THIS THING

!!
AARRR
THE FLAMES !!
WOOSH
FWOOSH
SEEP
FWRRRR

ROOO
KRSH...


IT'S SWALLOWING ALL THE FLAMES!
ANGELA!
IS IT GOING TO AWAKEN?!
CRACK
CRACK
CRACK

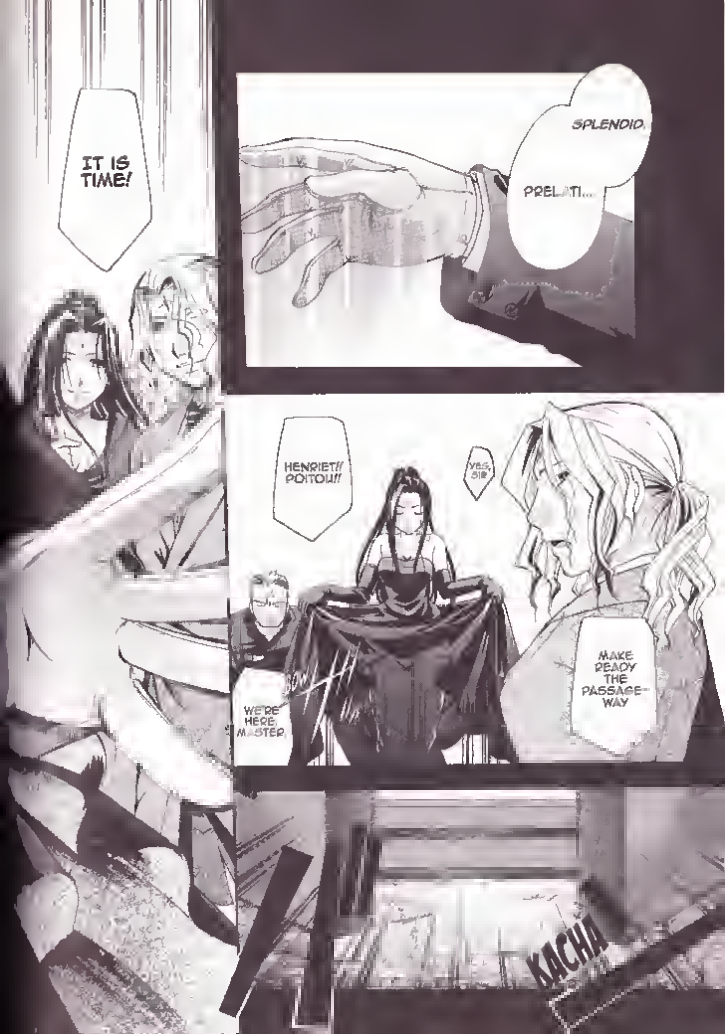
FLUSH
CRUSH
WHAT IS THIS...?
RUU
WHAT'S THAT?!
GASP
CRUSH
UUM
BEE
WHAT'S HAPPENING?!

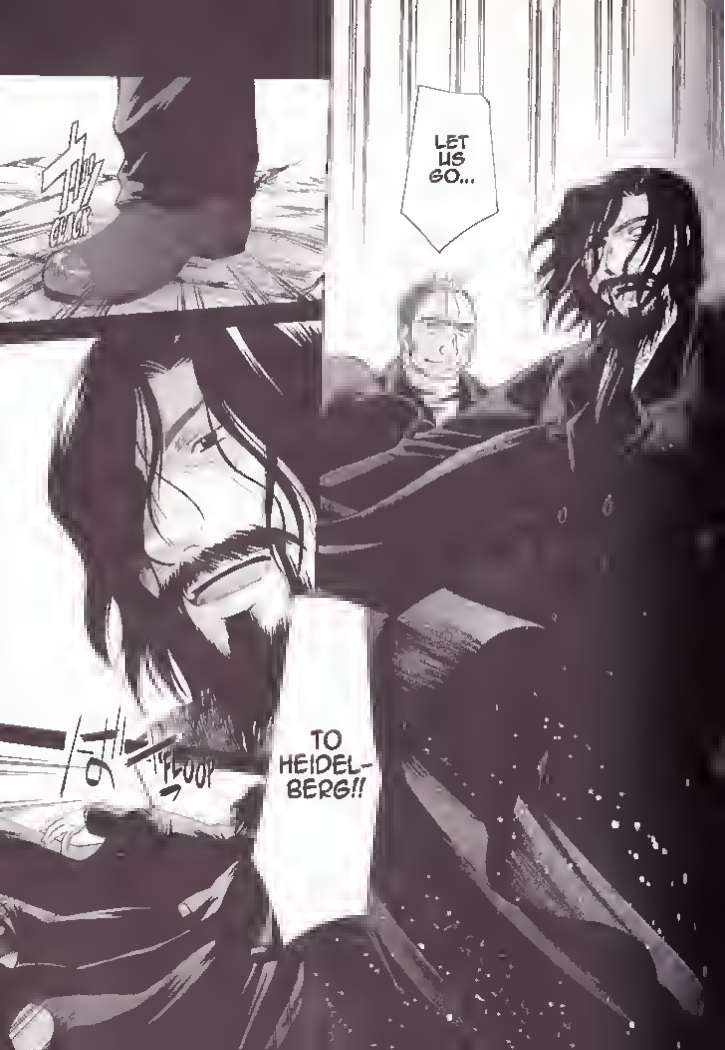

THEY DID IT!
OH, HOW MARVEL-OUS!
.....
AT LAST...
AFTER 400 YEARS,
MY DREAM IS FINALLY COMING TRUE!!

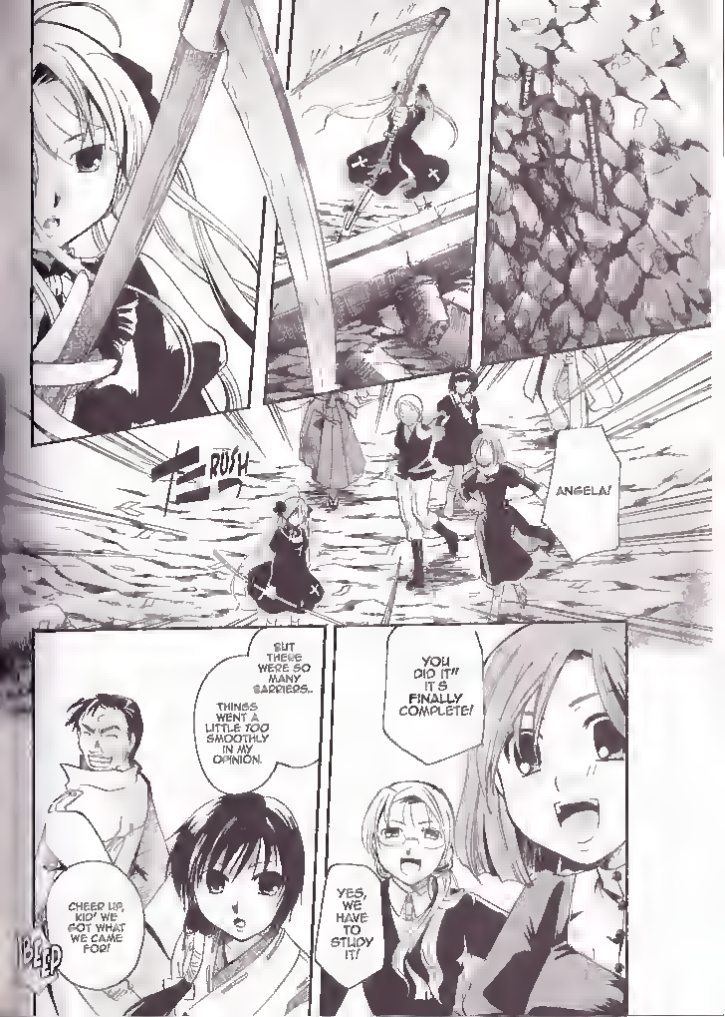
SIZZZZZZZ
YOUR SCYTHE
IT'S BURNING BLACK?!
CLATTER
!!
CRACK

THIS IS THE TRUE POWER...
IT CONSUMED THE FIRE
THUD
THWK
SQUEEZE
THIS FEELING..
IT'S THE SAME AS LAST TIME!!
I CAN FEEL IT...
ALL OF IT.

Crime: 30 Awakening After 400 Years
OF THE ANATHEMA SCYTHE!!

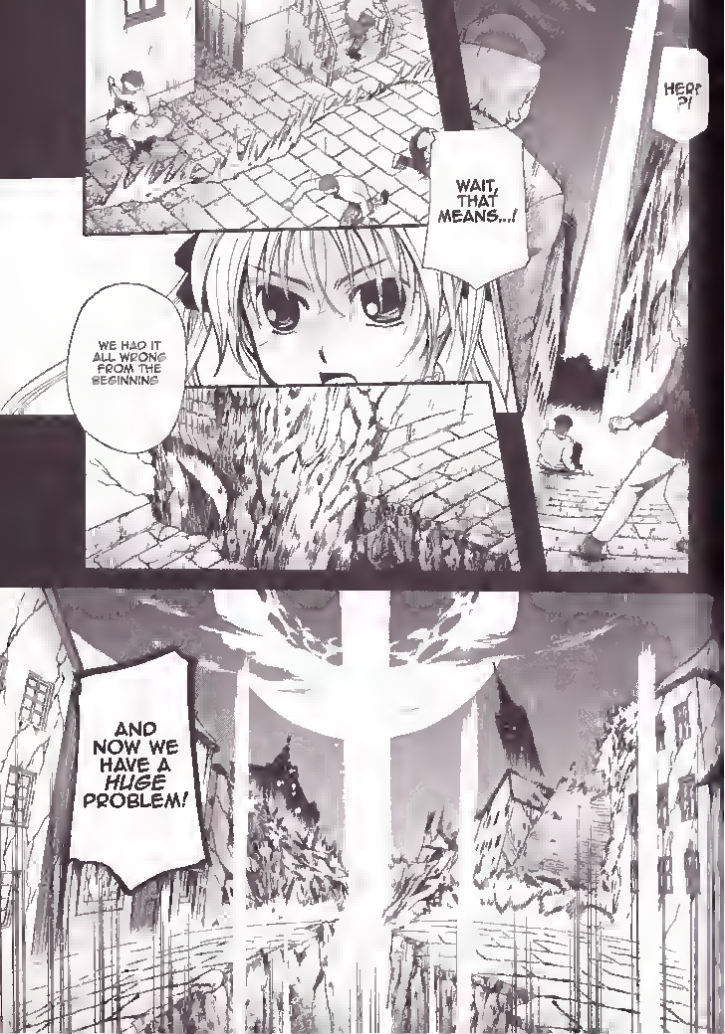

IT IS TIME!
SPLENDID.
PRELATI...
HENRIET!! POITOU!!
YES, SIR
MAKE READY THE PASSAGE-WAY
WE'RE HERE, MASTER
KACHA


LET US GO...
TO HEIDEL-BERG!!


RUSH
ANGELA!
YOU DID IT!" IT'S FINALLY COMPLETE!
BUT THERE WERE SO MANY BARRIERS..
THINGS WENT A LITTLE TOO SMOOTHLY IN MY OPINION.
YES, WE HAVE TO STUDY IT!
CHEER UP, KID! WE GOT WHAT WE CAME FOR!
BEEP

GERTRUDE WHAT'S WRONG?
SCHWESTER?
THE METER!
IT'S PICKING UP NEW ACTIVITY!
BEEP
BEEP
WHAT IS GOING ON HERE?!
?!
THWAK
THUD
THE RUINS...!
GERTRUDE IS SOMETHING WRONG

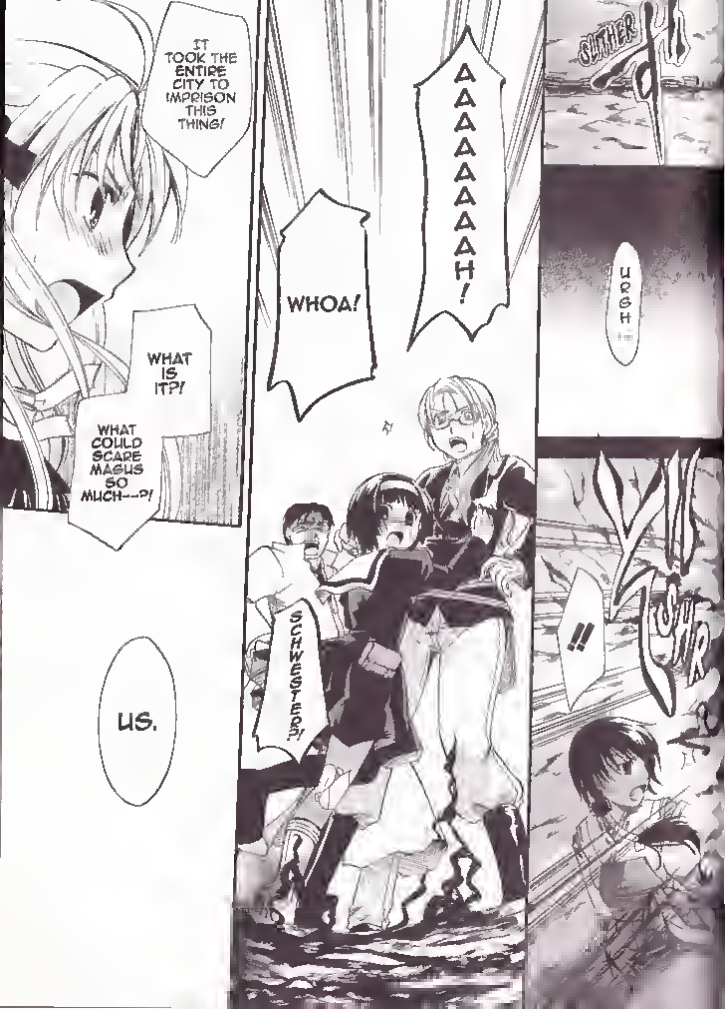
ALL OF THE RUINS...
HAVE BEEN RE-ACTI-VATED!!
BUT WHY?!
I THOUGHT NONE OF THEM FUNCTIONED ANYMORE...?
FWIP
IS THIS THE DEMON'S DOING?!
NO.
THE POWER VECTOR IS POINTING HERE.


HERP!
WAIT, THAT MEANS...!
WE HAD IT ALL WRONG FROM THE BEGINNING
AND NOW WE HAVE A HUGE PROBLEM!

HOW COULD MY CALCULATIONS BE SO FLAWED?
CLENCH
FLINCH
WHAT DO YOU MEAN ANN--?
BAM
THESE MONUMENTS WEREN'T BUILT TO PROTECT THE CITY
NO, THEY WERE NOT
THEY WEREN'T HERE TO PROTECT ANYTHING.
SLUMP
THEY WERE BUILT...

SHIVER
FLASH
TO CONTAIN...!
TO IMPRISON!!
WHAT NOW?!
BAM

WOBBLE
WHAT
WHAT IS...?
AAH!


SHATTER
URGH
AAAAAAAAH!
WHOA!
!!
SCHWESTER?!
IT TOOK THE ENTIRE CITY TO IMPRISON THIS THING!
WHAT IS IT?!
WHAT COULD SCARE MAGUS SO MUCH---?!
US.

RESENTMENT.

IT'S ALWAYS A PLEASURE TO SEE YOU
CRACK
WHA-?!
THEY'RE FARTING SPACE?!
ESPECIALLY TODAY
GILLES DE RAIS?!

...LOW ME TO ENLIGHTEN YOU.
THIS IS THE EMBODIMENT OF RESENTMENT. IT HAS BEEN BUILDING UP SINCE THE BIRTH OF MAN
THE BLACK FIRE IS THE MATERIALIZATION OF ALL HUMAN SUFFERING
THE FIRE CONSUMED HUMANITY'S PAIN AND KEPT IT FROM OVERFLOWING INTO THE WORLD...
YOU MEAN WE...?!
NO
BUT THEN THAT SCYTHE CONSUMED IT!

CON-GRATULA-TIONS!
LET US CELEBRATE! BOTH OF US ACHIEVED OUR GOALS!!
YOU HAVE AWAKENED THE ANATHEMA
WHILE I HAVE RELEASED THOUSANDS OF YEARS OF HATRED INTO THE WORLD!
?!

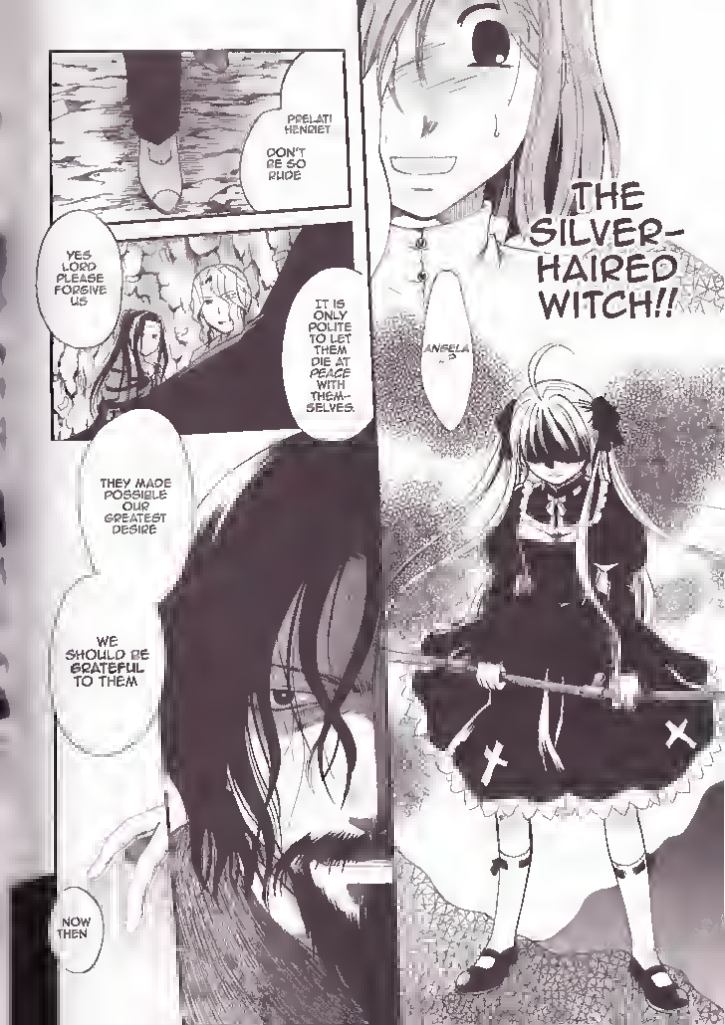
WOOSH
IF YOU WANT TO PARTY...
YOU'RE ON YOUR OWN
NOW THAT YOUR ANATHEMA HAS AWAKENED...
YOU MIGHT EVEN BE ABLE TO DEFEAT ME.
BUT I DOUBT YOU HAVE THE TIME FOR THAT NOW.
?!
MEG!!

HOW DARE YOU REFER TO A PLACE AS HOLY WHEN THERE IS SUCH EVIL IN IT!
WHAT..
HAL-LOWED GROUND ?!
PLEASE STAY OUT OF OUR WAY
ESPECIALLY NOW THAT WE ARE FINALLY ABLE TO GET RESENTMENT FREE ON THIS HALLOWED GROUND
LAND ISN'T SACRED BECAUSE ITS PEOPLE ARE PURE
TWIRL
YOU REALLY ARE A BUNCH OF IDIOTS!
HALLOWED GROUND IS LAND THAT WAS ONCE CURSED AND THEN SEALED BY A HOLY BEING!
?!

I SEARCHED FOR FOUR HUNDRED YEARS...
FOR HALLOWED GROUND WHOSE SEAL HAD WEAKENED
BUT THEN I FOUND THAT I NEEDED A WAY TO BREAK THE SEAL!
TO THINK YOU WOULD ARRIVE WITH IT IN HAND...
IT MUST BE THE WILL OF GOD.
AND YOU ARE OUR GODDESS OF GOOD FORTUNE!
SIMPLY MARVEL-OUS!!
THE "ANATHEMA"!!
AND SO I SEARCHED FOR THE ONE OBJECT THAT COULD EXTINGUISH THOSE FLAMES.
BUT NO LIVING THING COULD TOUCH THE BLACK FIRE.

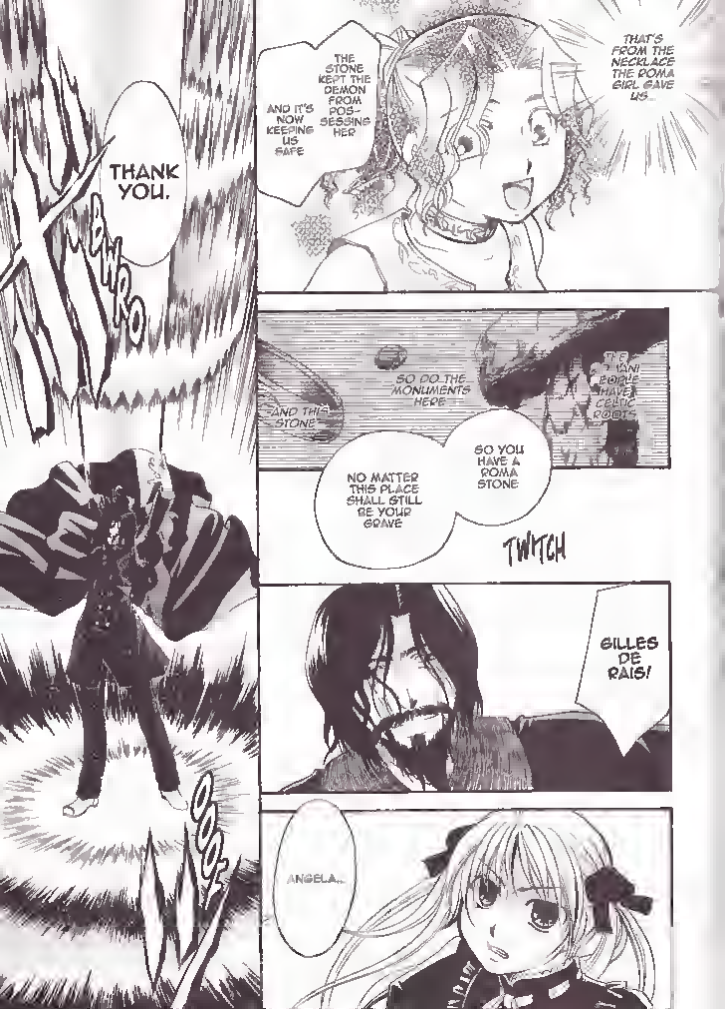
HOW IRONIC...
YOU WERE ONLY SUPPOSED TO BRING CALAMITY TO THOSE CLOSE TO YOU...
BUT NOW YOU'VE DAMNED THE WHOLE WORLD
WHAT?
WHAT DOES SHE MEAN?
OH
YOU DON'T KNOW?
YOU REALLY HAVEN'T FIGURED IT OUT?
IN ALL THE TIME YOU'VE SPENT TOGETHER, YOU'VE NEVER WONDERED "WHY IS THERE SO MUCH TRAGEDY WHEREVER WE GO?"

WHY... OUT OF ALL THE HUMANS IN THE WORLD...
WERE YOUR LOVED ONES CHOSEN TO DIE?
WHY WERE SORROW AND DISASTER AWAITING YOU AT EVERY STEP OF YOUR JOURNEY?
NO, THAT CAN'T BE TRUE...
THEY WERE JUST COINCIDENCE.
WHY INDEED...
I'LL TELL YOU THE CAUSE OF IT ALL.
EDITH...


PRELATI HENRIET
DON'T BE SO RUDE
YES LORD PLEASE FORGIVE US
IT IS ONLY POLITE TO LET THEM DIE AT PEACE WITH THEM-SELVES.
THEY MADE POSSIBLE OUR GREATEST DESIRE
WE SHOULD BE GRATEFUL TO THEM
NOW THEN
THE SILVER-HAIRED WITCH!!
ANFELA

LET THE RESENT-MENT CONSUME YOU!
DIE AND TURN YOUR WRATH TOWARD THE LIVING!!
FWOOSH
FWOOO
?!
AGH...
HUH...
HUH...
NEIN, SCHWEATER!
WOBBLE
DESTRUCT. RUN!
DAMN IT...
GASP
GAK
HURH

SHAKU
POP
POP
THE STONE WE'VE BEEN STUDYING!
IT'S-
WHAT'S GOING ON?
NO ONE CAN BLOCK PESENTMENT-
SUU
WHAT IS THIS?!
TRUDE!
WHAT WAS THAT?

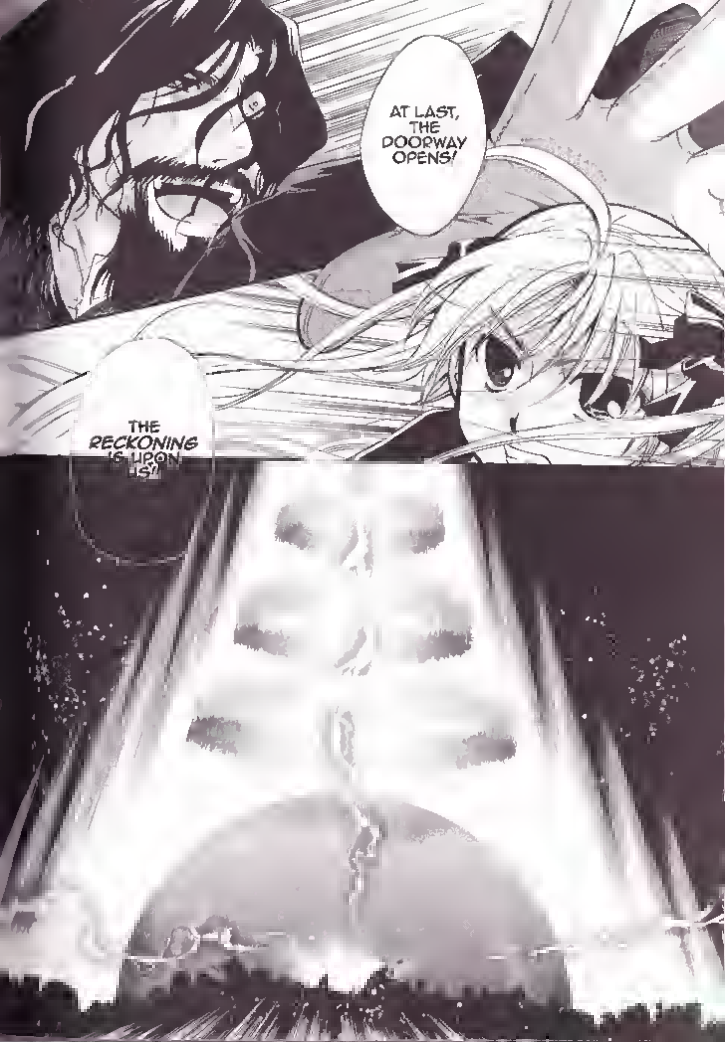

THANK YOU.
THAT'S FROM THE NECKLACE THE ROMA GIRL GAVE US...
THE STONE KEPT THE DEMON FROM POSSESSING HER
AND IT'S NOW KEEPING US SAFE
SO DO THE MONUMENTS HERE
AND THIS STONE
SO YOU HAVE A ROMA STONE
NO MATTER THIS PLACE SHALL STILL BE YOUR GRAVE
TWITCH
GILLES DE RAIS!
ANGELA...

ARRR
IRON
INDEED WE SHOULD HAVE A PARTY
WELL...
IT LOOKS LIKE WE WON
CRUSH
CRUSH

YES.
WE SHALL HOLD A WAKE FOR MANKIND!
HURRY! THE STONE IS FADING!
TRUDE, WHERE'S THE EXIT?!
WHIP
DEAD AHEAD!!
SHATTER

TAP
HURRY! WE HAVE TO GET AS FAR AWAY AS WE CAN!
WHAK
OOO
FRWO

OH NO! WHAT'S HAP-PEN-ING?!
FRWO
OOO


AT LAST, THE DOORWAY OPENS!
THE RECKONING IS UPON US!

YEA
I FEEL I GONNA G DOOR TODAY
SMITH
BUT WHY? I LIKE THE TRAAAAAAIN!
DO I TIE NOT TAY ME THE TRAIN THIS TIME? SHOULD I GET THE MAGIC DOOR OUT?

PRELATI

FULL NAME: FRANCOIS PRELATI
AGE: ? (APPEARS TO BE ABOUT 27)
PLACE OF ORIGIN: ITALY

Gilles de Rais's confidante as well as skilled conjurer and alchemist. He has a number of additional skills, such as interspatial teleportation. Since he's from Italy I wanted to make him a sophisticated guy but in the end, he turned out to be a narcissistic kind of character. The assistants all call him "Gilbert".

TETRAGRAMMATON LABYRINTH

Volume 5

story & art by Ei Itou

STAFF CREDITS

translation	Fumiko Osada
adaptation	Shannon Fay
retouch & lettering	Aristotle Licuanan
cover design	Nicky Lim
interior design	Roland Amago
layout manager	Bambi Eloriaga-Amago
copy editor	Shanti Fader
editor	Adam Arnold

publisher Seven Seas Entertainment

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